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THE ERA

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ESTABLISHED 1837.

WIRES: "The Era," London. 'Phone: 4546 and 4547 Regent.

Publishing Offices: 35, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C. 2.

VOL. 83. No. 4,247. REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE AS A NEWSPAPER. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1920. PRICE THREEPENCE.

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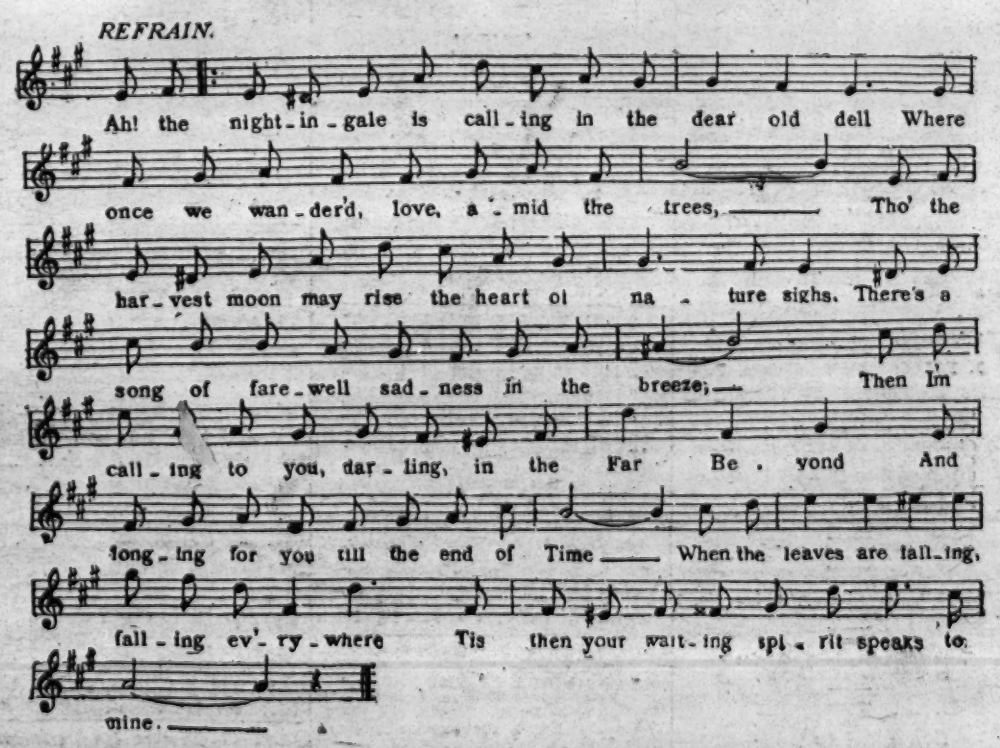

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Man. Dir., G. Aspland Howden.
'Phone, 135 Boston.
This Theatre has the LARGEST SEATING CAPACITY IN THE DISTRICT. Beautifully furnished, good band and lighting. It has an advantage in possessing a large stage, 50ft. wide, 24ft. back, pros. opening 31ft., taking 18ft. flat, and capable of effectively producing any play. Five good dressing-rooms, and good admission prices. With the large holding capacity WE ARE PREPARED TO OFFER "TOP" SHARING TERMS, FREE OF COMMISSION, to KNOWN LONDON ATTRACTIONS AND CONCERNS.
All the Leading London Companies are coming to the New Theatre, and as to future visits to the town the following are same of our attractions: "Who's Hooper?" "Billeted," "Nurse Benson," "Milestones," "Romance," "Chinese Puzzle," "Arcadians," "Daddy Long-Legs," "Nothing But the Truth," "Man from Toronto," "The Naughty Wife," "My Lady Frayle," the late Laurence Irving's "Typhoon," "Freedom of the Seas."
WANTED, COMPANIES,
EARLY DATES.
Co. Wanted, March 8, 22, 29, April 12.
Co. Wanted, March 8, 22, 29, April 12.
Co. Wanted, March 8, 22, 29, April 12.
Co. Wanted, March 8, 22, 29, April 12.
Co. Wanted, March 8, 22, 29, April 12.
Co. Wanted, March 8, 22, 29, April 12.
Apply for Bookings to the Booking Manager For the Company (for 10 years),
MR. WILL DALTON,
57, Parsonage-rd.,
Withington, Manchester.
Wire, "Granbeste, Manchester."

W. S. Bentley, "My Lady Frayle" Co., writes:—"As to visit a week ago to the New Theatre: Yes, show liked very much. My only regret was we did not play full week, which would have been so beneficial to all." (Which returns.)

WANTED, the Best Companies.
NEW PALACE THEATRE,
RAWTENSTALL (Lancs.).
Gen. Man., W. Nicholls.
Population 40,000.
The Best Companies Required for Odd Vacancies.
Once Nightly. Twice Sat.
Co. Wanted, March 29, to follow "Maid of the Mountains," and May 10 and 17, between "Charley's Aunt" and opera. Mention if played Rawtenstall and if booked previously at Accrington, Bacup, or Blackburn and Bury.
NEW PALACE THEATRE,
RADCLIFFE (Lancs).
Gen. Man. T. Rushton.
Population 35,000.
The Best Companies Required for Odd Vacancies.
Co. Wanted, March 15, May 10, 17, 24.
Co. Wanted, March 15, May 10, 17, 24.
Co. Wanted, March 15, May 10, 17, 24.
Co. Wanted, March 15, May 10, 17, 24.
Co. Wanted, March 15, May 10, 17, 24.
A good show March 1, to follow "Peg o' My Heart."
Once Nightly. Twice Sat.
Mention if played Radcliffe and if booked previously at Bury.
It is not in the interests of either Theatre or the Touring Managers if they cannot adequately fill out once nightly time.
For both theatres apply to Booking Manager For Above Companies Since Their Opening, with sharing terms, free of Commission.
MR. WILL DALTON,
57, Parsonage-rd., Withington, Manchester.
Wire, "Granbeste, Manchester."

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
Playing continuously to net nightly returns exceeding £160. (The average net gross per week exceeds £500.)
WANTED, Companies for June 7 (?), Sept. 13 (?), 20 (?), Oct. 11 (?), 18 (?), Nov. 1 (?), 8, 15, 22, 29, Dec. 13, 20.
Only First-class Musical Plays and Leading Dramatic Attractions entertained.
Silence a polite negative.
ALFRED MANNERS, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, INVERNESS.
Now a beautiful theatre playing nightly to excellent business.
March 8, 15, 22, 29 vacant.
WANTED, Big Attractions.
E. G. FALCON, Spring Cottage, Fort Augustus.

COLISEUM, CHELTENHAM.
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COLISEUM, CHELTENHAM.

Proprietor, Mr. H. G. Beard.

WANTED, immediately, a few No. 1 Revues.

Wire immediately Vacancies to Sole Booking Agent,

NAT DAY'S AGENCY,
NAT DAY'S AGENCY,
NAT DAY'S AGENCY,
NAT DAY'S AGENCY,
NAT DAY'S AGENCY,

Albion House,

59, New Oxford-street, W.

Telegrams,
"Varitism, West Central, London."

COMPANIES WANTED.

H. W. ROWLAND'S BOOKING CIRCUIT.

WANTED, High-class Attractions.
D.P. THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
April 12, May 17, 24, June 7, July 5.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Easter, April 21 (4), July 5.
PLEASURE GARDENS, FOLKESTONE.
Feb. 23, March 11 (3), June 21.
PALACE THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
March 29, May 3, June 7, 14.
PALACE THEATRE, MAIDSTONE.
June 7, on, with exceptions.
Once nightly.
London Representative for W. W. Kelly and Opera House, Blackpool.

H. W. ROWLAND'S AGENCY,
52, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.
Regent, 1651. "Topobill, Piccy, London."

Pantomime.
Pantomime.
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, for two weeks, Dec. 27, Once Nightly.
"CINDERELLA."

Write or wire where playing this or next week; distance no object, but real first-class production imperative.
J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

NEW THEATRE, OXFORD.
WANTED, High-class Attractions. Bookings include:—Fred Terry, Martin Harvey, Gertrude Elliott, F. R. Benson, D'Oyly Carte and Carl Rosa Companies, "Baby Bunting," "Tilly of Bloomsbury," "Bird of Paradise," "Who's Hooper?" "Monsieur Beaucaire," "Chu Chin Chow," &c.
Apply, S. C. DORRILL.

HIPPODROME, EASTBOURNE.
HIPPODROME, DOVER.
WANTED, a Revue or Musical Comedy.
March 1 and 8.
Send fullest particulars, with tour list, to
EXCLUSIVE AGENTS,
EGBERTS, LTD.,
17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W. 1.
Telegrams: Egbertency, London. Telephone: 6519 Gerrard.

WANTED, immediately, No. 1 Companies for Theatres doing £500 to £1,000 per week; also a few really good Revues for Theatres £150 to £300 per week.
Tours arranged.
MARMADUKE MILLER,
116, Victoria-street, London, S.W.

For other Companies Wanted see Displayed Wanted Section.

THEATRES WANTED.

For the Great Success at the
CRITERION THEATRE.
"OUR MR. HEPPLEWHITE."
WANTED, Feb. 11, July 26, Aug. 26 (3), Oct. 4 and 18, Nov. 8, 18 (3), and 29.
Now booking 1921.
Apply, W. E. Holloway, 7, Ramillies-rd., Bedford Park, W. 11.

WANTED,
ONCE OR TWICE NIGHTLY.
Feb. 23.
Feb. 23.
Feb. 23.

March 1.
March 1.
March 1.

The Greatest Play of To-day.
"BOUGHT AND PAID FOR."
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"BOUGHT AND PAID FOR."
"BOUGHT AND PAID FOR."
From the New Theatre, London.
By arrangement with Mr.
LYN HARDING.

March 22.
March 22.
March 22.

LOUIS D. CASH,
Criterion Chambers,
10-11, Jermyn-st., W. 1.
Telephone: 236 Gerrard.

SOILED!
SOILED!!
SOILED!!!
WANTED, Monday next (South or Midlands),
Feb. 23 (Yorks or Lancs).
March 1 and 8.

WALTER SALTOUN,
33, Albany-road, Windsor.

"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
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"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
This tour is proving the most successful of this wonderful play.
For business done this autumn refer to:—
Howard & Wyndham, Ltd., Edinburgh.
Arthur Jefferson, Glasgow.
A. J. & J. J. Wright, Greenock.
J. H. Savile, Perth, &c., &c.
Can be played once or twice nightly.
WANTED, Managers to send Vacant dates, Scotland or England.
DURWARD LELY, c/o Theatre, Perth.

"ARE YOU A MASON?"
From Comedy Theatre, London.
"THE NIGHT OF THE PARTY."
From Apollo Theatre, London.
WANTED, Dates. Apply, MR. WILLIAMS, 4, Featherstone-buildings, High Holborn.

WANTED, First-class Theatre.
World's Record Farce,
Herbert Jay and Anthony Ellis's Co.,
"A LITTLE BIT OF FLUFF."
March 1 (Midlands or North),
May 3 (Midlands or South).
Apply, PERCIVAL M. SELBY,
7 and 8, Leicester-place, Leicester-square, W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mrs. Jessie Porter's Charming Comedy,
"BETTY AT BAY."
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Feb. 23.

March 1 (three nights), 15, and 22.

April 5 and 12.

Address, CECIL BARTH, 37, King-street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. 2.

THE BRANDON THOMAS COMPANY IN "CHARLEY'S AUNT."
Entire West-End Production Carried.
Direct from the Garrick Theatre.

WANTED, First-class Theatres.

March 15 and 29.

May 17.

Address, CECIL BARTH,
37, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2.

New Romantic Play.
"'NED' KEAN OF OLD DRURY."
By Arthur Shirley.
West-End Company, including
H. A. Saintsbury.
Produced at Princes Theatre, Manchester, with enormous success.

The "Manchester Guardian" says:—"It is a better play than 'David Garrick' or 'Nance Oldfield,' and last night it was well acted all round."
"The Daily Mail" says:—"It is questionable whether any new play in Manchester has received such tumults of applause as '"Ned" Kean of Old Drury' did last night at the Princes Theatre."

WANTED, First-class Theatres.
Autumn, 1920, and Spring, 1921.

Return bookings 1920 include King's T., Glasgow, Lyceum T., Edinburgh, T.R., Nottingham, &c.

Entire Production Carried.

Address, CECIL BARTH,
37, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2.

CHARLES HAWTREY'S FAMOUS FARCICAL COMEDY,
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
Entire West-End Production Carried.

WANTED, First-class Theatres.

July 12, 19,
Aug. 30, Sept. 6, 13, 20.

Address, CECIL BARTH,
37, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2.

ROBERT COURTNEIDGE'S COMPANIES.

"Daddies."
(Two companies).
With Mr. Mollison Kidd.
Vacant April 19.

"The Man from Toronto."
(Three companies.)
Vacant March 1, 15.

"The Law Divine."
Vacant April 5, May 3.

"Scandal."
Vacant,
Feb. 16, April 5.

"The Arcadians."
Vacant May 10.

"Petticoat Fair."

"Too Many Girls."

"Paddy, the Next Best Thing."
To be produced Manchester, Feb. 23.

"Sunshine of the World."
Autumn Dates.

DOUGLAS MILLAR,
17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.

WANTED, First-class Theatres.
"THE MAID OF THE EAST."
Vacant
March 1.
NEVILL GRAHAM,
61 and 63, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Theatres, for
"SONNY JIM."
A New Musical Play.
Vacant March 1, 15, and 22.
NEVILL GRAHAM,
61 and 63, Brixton-road, London, S.W. 9.

WANTED, Dates for
"GOOD-NIGHT, NURSE."
A Farce in 3 Acts.
(By arrangement with Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger).
A tour of this success is being arranged until such times as a London theatre can be secured.
Vacant April 5 and various on.
NEVILL GRAHAM,
61 and 63, Brixton-road, London, S.W. 9.

J. FORBES KNOWLES' CO.
Standard Plays.
WANTED, Theatres.
Also one for Repertoire.
17, Leicester-st., W.C. 2.

WANTED, few dates, April and May, for the Ben Greet (L.C.C.) Shakespearean Players, to follow Crayford, Brighton, and T.R., Portsmouth. Letters, BEN GREET, 28, Red Lion-square, W.C. 1.

WANTED, Theatres, March 1, 15, 22, and April, for various dramatic attractions. W. V. GARROD, 94, Kennington Park-rd., London, S.E. 11.

WANTED, Managers and Agents in the district to see "One Law for Both," at the Metropole Theatre, Glasgow, during the week commencing 16th inst. Vacancies for theatres in the North during July and October. W. V. GARROD, 94, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E. 11.

J. A. E. MALONE'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, "TILLY OF BLOOMSBURY," March 29 (North), Aug. 5, 6, and 7 (North), Aug. 23.
"HIGH JINKS," March 29 and Aug. 16.
"MERRY WIDOW," Aug. 23 (South).
Apply, F. LESLIE MORETON,
7/8, Leicester-place, W.C. 2.

Albert Chevalier as Joe Brown, in the Great Play
"MY OLD DUTCH."
By Arthur Shirley and Albert Chevalier.
500th performance.
WANTED Known, Companion Play, by same Authors, in preparation, entitled "A FALLEN STAR."

Communications, C. INGLE,
16, Bartholomew-villas, Kentish Town, London.

THEATRES WANTED.

Lionel Rignold and Charles Macdona's CHARLES MACDONA'S CO.

WANTED, Dates for "PYGMALION" No. 1 Co. Now being revived at the Aldwych Theatre. March 1, 8, 15, 22, April 26, May 3, and on, with exceptions.

"HOME AND BEAUTY" No. 1 Co. May 10, Aug. 2, Sept. 27, Oct. 4.

"THE CHINESE PUZZLE." March 8, May 3.

29a, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

"DIPLOMACY," No. 1 Company. WANTED, April 12, 19, 26, June 14 on, with exceptions. Under the direction and personal management of FRED EUSTACE, 29a, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

"THE GIRL IN THE TAXI."

The Famous Musical Comedy from the Lyric Theatre, London. Once or twice nightly. Note.—This production can be seen This week, Hippo., Golders Green. One of the Biggest Box-office Attractions on Tour.

WANTED Known, Only Vacancy this Spring, April 5 (precede Watford). Autumn Vacancies, Aug. 9, 16, Oct. 25, and Christmas.

Apply, HUBERT WOODWARD, 102, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

"A MESSAGE FROM MARS." A new elaborate production of this world-famous play. First-class cast. This play now enjoying a record run at the Playhouse, Liverpool.

WANTED, Dates, once or twice nightly, April 5, onwards.

Apply, HUBERT WOODWARD, 102, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

"MONTI'S FLAPPER." Fourth Year. Strong cast, including R. Easten Pickering ("The Very Idea"), Douglas Cecil, Vincent Beechey, Constance Elgin, Moyra Melrose, and Jack Crichton. Two consecutive weeks, £1,304 16s. 8d.

WANTED Known, only Vacant Dates, Feb. 23, March 8, 15, 22, May 10, 17, 24, following Brighton (7th visit) and Edinburgh (4th).

HALDANE CRICHTON, 4, Park-place, St. James's, S.W.

WANTED, No. 1 Theatres and Music Halls only. Once or Twice Nightly.

"BUZZ-BUZZ." March 15, 29, April 12, May 10.

"BUBBLY." March 22, 29, April 26 (precede Cork).

"THE GIRL FROM CIRO'S." Feb. 23, April 5, 19, and 26.

"HOBSON'S CHOICE." Feb. 23, April 5, 12, 19, 26, May 3 and 24.

"TYPHOON." Feb. 23, March 1, 8, 22, 29, April 5.

Wire or write, W. FOSTER HORSFIELD, Suite 17-18, 26, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2. Telephone: Regent 208.

WANTED, No. 1 Theatres and Music Halls only. Once or Twice Nightly.

"BUBBLY." The Successful Musical Production from the Comedy Theatre, London. Entirely new production and entirely re-dressed. Vacant March 22, 29 (?), April 26 (to precede Cork). Also good Summer and Autumn Dates.

W. FOSTER HORSFIELD, Suite 17-18, 26, Charing Cross-rd., W.C. 2. Telephone: Regent 208.

WANTED, First-class Once Nightly Theatres only. Miss Leah Bateman and Mr. Terence O'Brien present The entire Royal Court Theatre productions of "TWELFTH NIGHT" and "THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL." By arrangement with Mr. J. Bernard Fagan. Vacant March 15 and a few dates on. W. FOSTER HORSFIELD, Suite 17-18, 26, Charing Cross-rd., W.C. 2. Telephone: Regent 208.

LOUIS CALVERT in "DADDALUMS" and "YOU NEVER CAN TELL."

WANTED, Easter Week, April 5. July 5. Also Autumn.

Refer to any Theatre the Play has visited. Prior to London Production. Communications, W. EDWARD STIRLING, The Opera House, Cheltenham. Next, Winter Gardens, New Brighton.

HORACE HODGES in "GRUMPY."

WANTED, next Monday, Feb. 16, 3 nights, Midlands, March 15, April 26 (3), May 3.

WALTER D. NICOLL, Grand T., Nelson, Lancs.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, &c., with big holding capacity, for a GREAT VAUDEVILLE TOURING CO.'S STAR TURNS.

Only good offers entertained. Vacant March 15 on, with exceptions. Wire or write to save time. MANAGER, 24, Dean-street, Brighton.

"Little Jack Horner," the Record-breaking Pantomime. WANTED, Monday next and Feb. 23 only. Big cast, splendidly dressed, up-to-date specialities. PERCY FRANKS, Shodfriars Hall, Boston.

WANTED, Feb. 23, on, to follow Edinburgh. LENA STANTON'S Pantomime Success, "ROBINSON CRUSOE." 30 Artists, including Five Gullivers, Comedy Cranks, Wee Toss and Betty, Delmar and Gould, Troupe Dancers, Harry Joseph as Dame, Lena Stanton as Crusoe. All coms., King's Theatre, Greenock.

LEONARD LAURENCE and DOROTHY WEST-SYMES present "ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE" and High-class Repertoire. WANTED, March 1, follow Portsmouth. March 1, follow Portsmouth. March 8 and 22. Wire for March 1, follow Portsmouth.

Opera House, Burnley. Next, Alexandra, Pontefract.

THEATRES WANTED.

THE COMPTON COMEDY COMPANY. THE COMPTON COMEDY COMPANY. Under direction of Mrs. Edward Compton.

WANTED, Theatres. MARCH 1 (?), and MARCH 22, also JULY 5, SEPTEMBER 20 and 27, OCTOBER 18 and 25, NOVEMBER 29.

EADE MONTEFIORE, 5, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

Wires: "Badmonty, Westrand, London."

HAROLD V. NEILSON'S Comedy Company, representing "MY SOLDIER BOY," "MY SOLDIER BOY," as played by the late Weedon Grossmith for 300 night at the Criterion Theatre, W. Just concluded highly successful tour of twenty-three weeks, with average weekly takings of over £400.

Gross receipts at the Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton, at prices 8d. to 3s.:— £652 5s. 1d. £652 5s. 1d.

"THE KISS CURE," By Ronald Jeans, Author of "Tabs," "Buzz Buzz," &c. Forty-fifth week of tour.

Also New Scotch Comedy, by Jerome K. Jerome, "THE MAC HAGGIS."

Bookings include: Liverpool, Newcastle, Brighton, Sunderland, Wimbledon, Richmond, Croydon, Hull, Eastbourne, Bournemouth, Llandudno, Harrogate, Scarboro', Newport, Colchester, Aldershot, Blackpool, Buxton and Westcliff. WANTED, First-class Theatres for April 5, 12, and 19, and various dates to December. HAROLD V. NEILSON, 89, Parliament Hill-mansions, N.W. 5.

HAROLD V. NEILSON presents SIR FRANK BENSON and the famous Benson Shakespearean Company, in New and Special Productions of "THE MERCHANT OF VENICE," "HAMLET," "THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR," "THE TAMING OF THE SHREW," "TWELFTH NIGHT," "JULIUS CÆSAR." Just concluded a special season of six weeks at the New Queen's Theatre, Manchester. Rebooked by John Hart, Esq., for a further season of eight weeks, autumn, 1920.

Gross receipts. "Hamlet" (one week) ..... £1,056 11 5 "The Taming of the Shrew" (one week) ..... £893 17 11 "Julius Cæsar" (four days).. £824 8 6

WANTED, April 19, May 3. HAROLD V. NEILSON, 89, Parliament Hill Mansions, N.W.5.

"HINDLE WAKES." "HINDLE WAKES." "King of the British dramatic world."—"Daily Mail." WANTED, March 1, between Preston and Hull. EDWIN T. HEYS, Mile End, Stockport.

"MY LADY FRAYLE." "MY LADY FRAYLE." WANTED, April 19 and 26, between Huddersfield and Worcester, for the above successful Musical Comedy, from the Shaftesbury Theatre (by arrangement with Robert Courtneidge). Cast includes Margot Joyce, Phyllis Sinclair, Frank Couch, Geo. F. Ide, Sidney Gouldie, and full company. Reply direct, W. B. BENTLEY, Comedies Ltd., 14, Southampton-st., Strand.

For other Theatres Wanted see Displayed Wanted Section.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, at once, Top Liner Soprano, first-class engagement. Call with songs, Rehearsal Theatre, 3, Bedford-st., 3 o'clock, Thursday. FOSTER.

WANTED, for tour commencing Aug., 1920, a First-class Leading Gentleman, to create the part of Doctor Mark (character heavy leading part) in Lloyd Clarence's new spiritualistic play, "From the Land of Silence"; also experienced artists for other parts. Full particulars to LLOYD CLARENCE, Globe Theatre, Consett.

WANTED, Stout Character Comedy Old Man for Cattermole type of part in Sketch, "My Pal Smith"; open April 5; rehearse week previous. Send height, age, terms, refs., &c., to JOHN DUNBAR, Resident Manager, Hippodrome, Warrington. Mark envelopes, "Sketch."

WANTED, Cinema Artists, all lines, for important British productions; photos. essential. SIDNEY JAY, 205, Oxford-street, W. 1. 'Phone, Museum 4329.

WANTED, for to-morrow, Thursday, Feb. 12, Fri., Sat., and Sunday, real good Concert Party for Pavilion, Godalming. Wire lowest sharing terms for a good half-week. RUPIER, 10, Albert-mansions, South Lambeth-road, London.

WANTED, Smart, energetic Man, of good education and appearance; must be musical, a good pianist, and singer if possible, for duties in connection with concert work, interviewing artists, and propaganda in a music publishing business. Write, stating qualifications and experience (if any), "A," c/o Anderson's Advertising Agency, 14, King William-street, Strand.

WANTED, Girls, from 15 to 16 years old, for well-known Cycling Troupe travelling Continent and South America; must know ballet, step, and a slight idea of cycling; 2 years' booking. Send photograph to TEXON, 6, Rue Alfred Stevens, Paris.

WANTED, First-class Chorus Ladies, for tour, West-End musical comedy, starting shortly; must have very good appearance and voice; medium height; bring song; salary £3. Apply, between 3 and 4, Thursday, EDWARD CRANSTON, Theatrical Agent, Percy Hall, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road.

"OH !!" Musical Burlesque. WANTED, Refined Chorus Ladies, good voices, appearance, &c.

Terms, refs., photos., age, indispensable. Also Good Dancers. HANAWAY BROS., 16, Lilley-rd., Fairfield, Liverpool.

Preserve your music—put it in a "Mauriena" Cover. THIS WEEK'S NOVELTIES "Extase," by Daras. "Paquerette," by Daras—Light. "Marengo," by Daras—March. "Ronde de Papillons," by Orena—Light. All at F.O. 1/6, S.O. 1/3, P.C. 6d., E.P. 3d. FOR SAMPLE PARCEL send 2/6. STATE COMBINATION REQUIRED. Obtainable from Goldman, South Shields, 3, Carlisle Terrace, Bradford, and

MUSIC 55, HIGH STREET, NEW OXFORD STREET, W.C.1 PIENA (Opposite Tottenham Court Road).

PIENA 'Phone: Gerrard 7236. 'Grams: "Immauriena, 'Phone, London." MUSIC Use a "Mauriena" Cover, and double the life of your music. Prices:—Small size, 3d. each, Large size, 5d. each. Larger quantities by arrangement.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, good Chorus Ladies; also Dancers. Photo., terms, fullest particulars, first letter. Also Principals for Revue. All coms., HARRY JOSEPH, King's Theatre, Greenock.

WANTED, for Lucile, Paris, tall, slim Model Girls, heights 5ft. 10in., essential young, dark, and pretty. Apply personally, LUCILE, 23, Hanover-square, London.

WANTED, Boys and Girls, Child Dancers; rehearse immediately. VILLIERS, 13, George-street, Hanover-square, W.

WANTED, clever Children Dancers for London. Call, any time, Wednesday, or 12 o'clock, Thursday, SIDNEY JAY, 205, Oxford-street, W. 1. 'Phone: Museum 4329.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engt., by Trained Mezzo.; excellent Pianist, young; any description; town only; exp. Box 301, "The Era."

WANTED Known, "Liza Brown," song and dance speciality; "Coster" character studies, as male or "lidy"; a lively turn. Address "The Era."

WANTED, Immediate Engagement, Character, Responsible, Management; experienced. STUART, 4, River-street, Putney, London.

WANTED, by ex-Officer, young, Work, Film or Stage; Dude and Light Comedy Parts; also in possession Trap Drums. Apply, BILLY GORDEN, 20, Wimbledon-road, Tooting, S.W. 17.

MISS EVA BARNES. WANTED Known, several troupes of young Lady Dancers now disengaged. Managers or reliable Agents only write for audition or call any day between 3 and 5 p.m. at Percy Hall, 3, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road, London.

AMATEURS, PUPILS, ETC., WANTED.

WANTED, Amateurs, Aspirants. Splendid opportunity start professionally. Stamp. Call afternoons. MR. D'ALBERT, 3, Stansfield-road, Stockwell-road, S.W. 9.

WANTED, Ladies, Gentlemen wishing to enter profession. Songs, sketches, everything supplied. Tuition. Start direct when ready. D'ALBERT, above address.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, for Tour, Sewing Girls to help in Wardrobe; regular work; good salary. Apply, D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO., Savoy Hotel, Strand.

WANTED immediately, by "CARLTON," useful man, single, as Secretary and Assistant; one used to typewriter preferred; copies of references and experience, age, salary required, &c. CARLTON, this week, Hippodrome, Sheffield.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, to know that Leetes' hold a large stock of Scenic Colours, Brushes, &c. Write for Catalogue. A. LEETE & CO., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E. 1.

WANTED, Engt. by BERT J. YARD, Stage Manager and M. Carpenter, Bench Hand (Mechanic); first-class refs.; a good resident shop needed. Wire or write, 5, Oakfield-place, Clifton, Bristol.

WANTED Known, at liberty Feb. 16, Resident Stage Manager, owing to Palace sold for Pictures. SYD PRATT, Bow Palace, E., late Sir Walter de Frece, Martin Henry, and Frederick Lloyd's companies.

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WANTED, Engt. by a reliable Scenic Artist, to touch up, repaint scenery, &c.; music hall scenas a speciality; terms mod.; theatres, halls attended if required; work finished on shortest notice. D. BARKER, 85, Brandon-street, London, S.E. 17.

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WANTED, FIRST-CLASS ADVANCE MANAGER, TO OPEN AT ONCE, FOR VARIETY TOURING CO. ALSO SHORTHAND-TYPIST, CAPABLE OF TURN PREFERRED. FULL PARTICULARS BY LETTER TO MANAGER, 24, DEAN-STREET, BRIGHTON.

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SOUTHPORT CORPORATION MILITARY BAND.

WANTED, Bandmaster and Conductor, to fill vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Wm. Rimmer. Season 20 weeks, May to September. Full particulars may be obtained from the Town Clerk, Town Hall, Southport. Applications should be in the hands of the undersigned not later than the first post on Monday, the 23rd February, 1920.

J. ERNEST JARRATT, Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Southport, 3rd February, 1920.

WANTED, for small London cinema, experienced Musical Director (own library); one who can engage and maintain in high state of efficiency small orchestra of seven. References, age, and lowest terms. Box 313, "The Era." Ted Seed write, important.

WANTED, M. D., Variety. Terms and references to T. STEVENS, M. D., Palace Theatre, Grimsby. Also Oboe, for Pictures.

WANTED, Bandmaster, for Railway Works Band; suitable office employment found. Write, SECRETARY, 31, Christ Church-road, Ashford, Kent.

WANTED, Musical Conductor (Pianist), for tour, West-End musical comedy, starting shortly. Letters only, for appointment, EDWARD CRANSTON'S THEATRICAL AGENCY, 19, Sackville-street, Piccadilly.

WANTED, immediately, Violiniste-Leaders, London Café; high-class Cinemas, Croydon; also West-End and Midlands. Orchestral Pianists, London Café, also several Cinemas. Several 'Cellistes. Good Orchestral Players write. SALON ORCHESTRA SOCIETY, 34, Oxford-street, W.1.

WANTED, a Leader Violin, Repetiteur, Orchestral Pianist, 'Cello, for Central London. Apply by letters only, M. D. 53, Philpot-street, E. 1.

WANTED, Immediately, Experienced Leader and Orchestral Pianist, for large band in high-class cinema in London. Write Box 316, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Violin Leader for Quartette, music supplied; 6 evenings, 2 matinées weekly; no Sundays; open Feb. 23. Terms and particulars, CORRISON, Cinema, Truro.

WANTED, good Solo Violin (Leader), also 'Cello, used to best-class music, for trio; pictures, seaside; 3 matinées, no Sundays. State fully experience, references, age, and lowest terms, to H. REYNOLDS, Public Hall, Colwyn Bay, North Wales.

EMPIRE, PETERBOROUGH. WANTED, good Leader, good 'Cellist, good Pianist, used to Variety; permanency to the right people. Apply, with terms and refs., to J. A. CAMPBELL, Empire, Grantham.

THE PICTURES HOUSE, GRANTHAM. WANTED at Once, First-class Leader (Lady or Gent.). Good Trio please write. First and Second Violins, 'Cellist. Hours, 6.30 to 10.30. One matinée. Play in Café 4 to 5.15. Teas provided. Apply to J. A. CAMPBELL, The Picture House, Grantham.

OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST. WANTED, to Open at Once, Good First Violin; A.M.U. terms. Latest references to FRED. W. WARDEN, as above.

WANTED, Violiniste and 'Celliste, for trio; must be experienced; ladies preferred; evenings, from 6 o'clock, and two matinées. Apply, stating experience, salary required, to MANAGER, Palace Cinema, Walton-on-Thames.

WANTED, good Violinist, Pictures; evenings only; no Sundays; decent salary and comfortable permanency to capable player. Terms and refs. to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Strand Picture House, Hull.

WANTED, Violinists, 'Cellists, Pianists, for trio work, from Easter onwards; must be fully experienced. F. H. JEPSON, 39, Beech-avenue, Blackpool.

WANTED, Competent Artists, Violin, 'Cello, Flute, &c., for café, cinema, &c.; good amateurs acceptable. P. B., 235, Shernhall-street, Walthamstow.

WANTED, First-class Violinist and Rep.; also Organist (Harmonium); gents. Call, 2.15 or 5.45, Hippodrome, Angel-road, Edmonton.

WANTED, Violin, Bass Cornet, Clarinet, Flute; African tour; preference given to any above playing piano. Call, 12 to 2, or write, CONDUCTOR, 3, Coram-street, Russell-square, W.C. 1.

WANTED, a good solid Violinist for pictures and variety; 5 hours daily and no Sunday work; A.M.U. terms. Sends references to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, The Playhouse, Folkestone.

WANTED, Violinist, London Cinema; Gentlemen only. Write, M. D., 28, Plympton-road, Brondesbury, N.W. 6.

EMPIRE, WAKEFIELD. WANTED, 1st Cornet, open immediately; must be used to musical comedy and variety; good opening for ex-Army Bandsman; A.M.U. terms. Apply, stating age and references, to WM. McDONALD, Mus. Dir.

WANTED, for Works Brass Band, the following players:—One Soprano, Three Cornets, two Horns, and one Flugel; suitable employment would be found. Apply, stating occupation, to Box 258, "The Era."

WANTED, Solo Cornet, for Hippodrome, Keighley; open Feb. 23, 1920; A.M.U. terms. Apply, WALTER LUPTON, Musical Director.

LIVERPOOL CITY POLICE BAND. WANTED urgently.—Experienced Instrumentalists are urgently Required for the above, especially Cornets, Bassoons, Horns. Applicants must be of good physique, under 28 years of age, 5ft. 9½in., and be prepared to undertake modified police duties. Pay commences at 70s. per week. Full particulars can be obtained from the HEAD CONSTABLE, Central Police Office, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Tenting Season, commencing March, Solo Cornet, Euphonium, Bombardon. Terms, solo cornet, £3 10s.; others, £3 5s., and bonus. Apply, D. TAYLOR, Circus Depot, Portland-st., Worcester.

WANTED, first-class Clarinet; must be able to play the highest class of music and have good tone or useless; pictures; good salary. Refs., &c., to GUY FLETCHER, Musical Director, Empire, Mexborough.

BOURNEMOUTH MUNICIPAL MILITARY BAND. WANTED (to commence May 10) for the Summer Season, experienced Bassoon, also String Bass; performances twice daily, including Sundays. Apply, with terms and references, to MR. DAN GODFREY, Director of Music, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

WANTED, for Palace, Leicester, good reliable Double Bass, 4 strings, to open Monday, Feb. 23; A.M.U. terms, £3 3s. Full particulars, age, and recent refs. to JOHN W. LOWE, Mus. Dir.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LEEDS. WANTED, Bass Player, to open Feb. 23; experienced in variety; permanency to suitable man; A.M.U. terms. Apply, with references, BLEASDALE, Mus. Dir.

BIG CIRCUS. WANTED, for the Tenting Season, Euphonium and Trombone, £3 5s. per week, £5 bonus. GUS NUTTALL, 43, St. Mary's-square, Kennington-rd., London, S.E.

WANTED, brilliant Trombone for Musical Act; young, good appearance. Box 330, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class 'Celliste, for high-class pictures and variety; twice nightly, one matinée; no Sundays; good money and comfortable permanency for right man. Terms and refs., GEO. CASEY, Grand Cinema, Basingstoke.

WANTED, thoroughly experienced Lady 'Cellist, for London Restaurant. Call 213, Oxford-street, between 11 and 12 only, Thursday.

WANTED, lady 'Celliste, Flute, and Clarinet, for Cinema in Lancashire. Seaside town. Particulars to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Box 328, "The Era."

WANTED, good 'Celliste, 4 hours daily, no Sundays; evenings free. HOWARD, Café Royal, St. Anne's-on-Sea, Lancs.

WANTED, first-class lady 'Celliste, for Trio, to commence March 1 or before; 3½ hours daily, six days; dress provided. Terms and particulars to IVY GORDON, Queen's Hotel, Eastbourne.

WANTED, 'Cellist, also First and Second Violinist, for Orchestra; Pictures, twice daily. State experience to 16, South-Quay, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, 'Cellist, A.M.U.; good, comfortable permanency. References to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Empire Theatre, Rotherham.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, 'Cellist as Principal; must be very experienced in the highest class Concert Repertoire. Permanency and Good Salary to the right man. Twenty-eight hours weekly. Commencing Feb. 22.

LYELL-TAYLER, West Pier, Brighton.

Palace Theatre, Blackburn. WANTED, experienced 'Cellist, open Monday, Feb. 23. Twice-nightly varieties. A.M.U. terms, £3. Apply, E. BARTLE, M.D.

WANTED, good 'Cellist, lady or gent., to open Monday, Feb. 16. Call with instrument, after 3 o'clock, R. PHILLIPS, Musical Director, Queen's-road Cinema, Bayswater.

WANTED, two First-class 'Cellists (London cafés); £5 5s. weekly. Apply, GRAY, 12, Archer-street, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.

WANTED, at once, good 'Cellist; 6 week-days, 6 to 10.15. Apply, 32, Loudoun-rd., N.W. 8, before 2 p.m.

WANTED, Capable 'Cello Player. Demobbed man preferred. Comfortable engagement. Write to STORR, Central Cinema, Ipswich.

WANTED, Oboe Player, used to first-class variety; A.M.U. terms and regulations. Apply, E. WINTER, Manager, Empire, South Shields.

WANTED, Oboe, A.M.U.; salary, including weekly matinée, £3 19s. 1d. (average for 12 months over £4 10s. per week). Apply, stating age, experience, and refs., to HOWARD CROFT, Mus. Dir., Alhambra Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good Oboe Player; twice nightly Varieties; present rate, £3. To a competent, reliable man, comfortable Permanency offered. Open Monday next. Apply, with full particulars, refs., &c., to CHARLES BRADLEY, Empire Theatre, Longton, Staffs.

New Theatre, Mountain Ash. WANTED, to open Monday next, first-class Flute and Picc.; A.M.U.; about 18 hours weekly; terms, £3 3s. for 7 nights. Pars. to W. H. COLLIER, Mus. Dir.

WANTED, thoroughly competent Orchestral Pianiste for Hotel; live out; permanency; open March. Apply, giving references, experience, and terms for 34 hours weekly, to Box 326, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Orchestral Pianist-Organist, to Deputise on Sunday evenings; thoroughly experienced and reliable. Apply, M. GIDDINGS, 25, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, S.E.

WANTED, 1st Tenor and Baritone Pianist (young, smart evening dress appearance) for well-known Comedy Quartette. Wire, or call between 12 and 4 o'clock Wed., 37, Leighton-road, Kentish Town.

WANTED, Orchestral Pianist and 'Cellist, for Yorkshire Coast Cinema. Must be experienced. Box 319, "The Era."

WANTED, to start Sunday next, First call Orchestral Pianist; must have had West-End experience. Call between 6 and 8, Electric Palace, Notting Hill Gate, W.

WANTED, high-class Orchestral Pianist (gentleman) for cinema, S.E. district. Apply, 6, Ockley-road, Streatham. 'Phone, Streatham 950.

WANTED, at once, Pianists, Banjoists, Violinists, Saxophone Players and Trap Drummers, for every kind of high-class work. Apply, any morning, between 11 and 1, WILSON DIBBLE, 13, Duke-st., St. James', S.W. 'Phone, Gerr. 5285.

WANTED, for evenings, Sundays included, at small suburban cinema, first-class Cinema Orchestra, piano, 'cello, bass, first and second violins, cornet, and drums. All particulars and lowest terms, Box 312, "The Era."

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OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE. WANTED, to Open at Once, Drummer; must be experienced in all lines; permanency to suitable applicant; A.M.U. rates, £3. Apply, GENERAL MANAGER, Opera House, Dunfermline.

WANTED, good Double Drummer, six evenings weekly; Dalston Cinema; good salary to competent man; to commence Feb. 16. Call mornings, or write, M. D., 32, Downs Park-rd., Dalston, E. 8.

WANTED, Drummer and Effects for long tour revue. Apply, R. L. PARSONS, M. D., Empire, Hackney.

WANTED, first-class Trio. Full particulars to MANAGER, Kinema Palace, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

WANTED, Trio, for South Coast Café, to play 4 to 6 o'clock daily, including Sunday; own library. SECRETARY, 68, North End-rd., W. Kensington.

WANTED, Lady Musicians, 2 good leaders, strings and wind (brass and wood), and pianiste. Box 321, "The Era."

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WANTED Known, Dis. Feb. 23, HARRY BURBRIDGE, Mus. Dir.; highest London references; London terms. H.M. Theatre, Walsall. Next, New T., Crewe.

WANTED, Engt. by well-known Musical Director, first-class season's engagement; 18 years' concert experience; very large high-class library. M. D., 126, East-parade, York.

WANTED, RICHARD ILIFFE, Composer and Musical Director of "Oh! I" company. At liberty, desirous of change for permanency; variety, &c. P.A., Elder Villa, Fitzwilliam-street, Mablethorpe, Lincs.

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WANTED, Engt. by Violinist-Conductor; late Queen's Hall and Beecham Opera orchestras; excellent soloist, smart personality; at present engaged at leading society functions, is open to accept engagement, with his orchestra, for Easter and summer seasons, for Pier, Pavilion, &c. Only good offers entertained. Address, Box 283, "The Era."

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WANTED, Engt. as Conductor (baton), is open for Engagement; 15 years' exp. in variety; excellent credentials. Box 315, "The Era."

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WANTED Known, Violin (rep.) Disengaged Feb. 23; any business. Best offer to REPET., 196, Sam's-lane, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Engt., Violin-Rep.; London or district pref. VIOLINISTE, 27, High-street, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, immediate Engt. as Violin (rep.) or Viola; London only; Cinema or Variety. VIOLINIST, 10, St. Edmund's-terrace, St. John's Wood, N.W.

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MUSICIANS' WANTS.

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WANTED Known, Leader Violiniste, deputising, Sundays, also Tuesday and Friday afternoons, hotel, café, pictures. AUSTIN, 68, Probisher-road, Hornsey, N. 8.

WANTED, Engt., by Lady Violinist (Leader), exp.; Hotel or Café, in Quartette or Orchestra (no cinema); East Coast preferred; highest references. Letters to Box 302, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt. by Leader-Violinist, with own Pianist; desires change; other musicians if required; experienced all lines; good offers; London only. No agents. Box 285, "The Era."

WANTED, London Engt., brilliant and experienced Leader; 20 years' exp. in variety. S. BEST, 39, Norfolk-road, East Ham, London, E. 6.

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"THE PEOPLE'S ROSE."

Play in Seven Scenes, by Allen Clarke and Carthage Caldclough; produced at the Junction Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Feb. 2.

Leading incidents in this new play are a strike, the soldiery in arms against the strikers, and mills set on fire. All this, however, is subordinate to the story of Rose Hilton, she it is who heads the strikers, but turns out to be the daughter of the tyrannical mill owner who orders the soldiers to fire on the people. The course of events brings repentance to Crosthwaite, the mill owner, and the translation of Rose into a duchess by her marriage with the young officer in command of the military. The incidentals are interesting, the staging is good, and the play is well written; the parts being well played by Miss Ray Parry, Mr. Carthage Caldclough, Mr. Sydney A. Monckton and Mr. Godfrey Clarke.

FREEMASONRY.

DRURY LANE LODGE.

The Grand Master of England, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, having granted a Dispensation for the purpose, the brethren of the Drury Lane Lodge met in the Grand Temple, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, London, yesterday to celebrate the thirty-fourth anniversary of the consecration of the Lodge and to witness the installation of Mr. Joseph A. Myer as Master for the ensuing year. A goodly number of the members of the Lodge were in attendance, and upwards of forty visitors accepted invitations and were present.

Mr. A. Steffens Hardy, the reigning Master, was well supported by his officers.

Messrs. Charles Denier Warren and Arthur Wood offered themselves as candidates for admission to the Order, and the ballot proved unanimous in their favour. Capt. Hy. Albert G. Neville was elected as a Joining Member.

The accounts of the Lodge were received and adopted and the auditors thanked for their valuable services.

Mr. Percy Henry Gordon Coggin, elected at a previous meeting, was presented and admitted to the privileges pertaining to the first stage of his novitiation.

Other business having been disposed of, Mr. Joseph Alex Myer, as Master Elect, was presented to receive the benefits of installation, and the ancient ceremony was performed with impressive solemnity.

The New Master then appointed his officers as follows: A. Steffens Hardy, I.P.M.; Rear-Admiral Sir E. F. Inglefield, K.B.E., S.W.; Albert Ward, J.W.; Rev. Edgar Rogers, M.A., Chapn.; Thomas Catling, P.M., P.A.G.D.C., treas.; James Powell, P.M., P.A.G. Reg., sec.; Albert G. Neville, P.M., P.D.G., D.C.; Lieut.-Comdr. James Powell, D.S.O., R.N., S.D.; Dr. G. G. Howitt, J.D.; Harry Nicholls, P.G.Std.B., A.D.C.; Frank Braine, Almr.; Stephen R. Philpot, Orgt.; A. Blomfield Jackson, P.M. L.R., A. Sec.; Richard Northcott, I.G.; J. M. Brown, 1st Steward; Gaston Mayer, 2nd Steward; Ernest L. Linsdell, 3rd Steward; Captain R. H. Haggie, 4th Steward; and E. J. Nesbitt, Tyler.

The business of the day being ended the members and their visitors adjourned to the Connaught Rooms and dined together.

THEATRICAL LADIES' GUILD MATINEE.

When Miss Irene Vanbrugh appeared to announce the result of the matinée organised by Mr. Owen Nares in aid of the Theatrical Ladies' Guild of Charity, at the Alhambra on Sunday, she was able to tell the vast audience which crowded the theatre in every part, that over £600 had been realised. Miss Vanbrugh referred to the postponement of the matinée, and said that the National Sunday League, under whose auspices the matinée was held, generously contributed £100 in case any loss should occur through the postponement. She paid tribute to the officials of the League for their help, to Miss Helen Ferrers, the Guild's secretary, and to Mr. Owen Nares for organising the matinée. Mr. Nares was unfortunately unable to be present through indisposition; indeed, there were quite a number of star artists who did not put in an appearance, but despite this fact an excellent programme was submitted. Miss Fay Compton was particularly successful in Alfred Noyes' "The Highwayman," to music improvised by Mr. Ivor Novello; Miss Lottie Venne, in her own inimitable way gave two short monologues, Mr. Hichens' "A Broken Heart" and "Across the Street." Mr. Arthur Wontner's contribution was Owen Meredith's "The Portrait," which he recited very cleverly, and as an encore gave "If We Only Knew." Mr. Cyril Maude appeared in a new rôle as a raconteur, and told "some stories," a good many of them of American origin. Mr. Thorpe Bates sang excellently "Two Shakespeare Songs," by Roger Quilter; Mr. Harry Welchman had a fine reception for songs from the new song cycle, "Old Ships," whilst lighter fare was provided by Mr Henry de Bray in a couple of songs about the ladies. Miss Lilian Braithwaite gave a delightful rendering of Mr. Rudyard Kipling's "The 1000th Man," and another excellent recitation came from Miss Irene Vanbrugh, in the form of Rupert Brooke's "A Fragment."

A quintette not mentioned on the programme opened the proceedings with two selections, and instrumental items were also provided by Mr. Albert Cazabon (violinist), Mr. de Groot, who played exquisitely Massenet's meditation from "Thaï" and "Tambourin Chinoise," by Kreisler, and Mr. Felix Salmond, who gave "Le Cygne," by Saint-Saëns and Glazounow's "Serenade Espagnol" on his 'cello. In Mr. Leslie Henson's stead, unable to appear on account of a cold, Mr. Wolseley Charles very cleverly portrayed at the piano how great composers might have composed "Three Blind Mice." Miss Guelda Dulay, a talented vocalist, and Miss Marjorie Moore and Madame Bertha Moore in duets completed the programme.

"EVE."

Play, in Four Acts, by H. F. Maltby, produced at the West Pier Theatre, Brighton, on Monday, Feb. 9.

Mrs. Morrison ....Miss Esther Carthew
Tommy .....Mr. E. Hamilton Jackson
Eve .....Miss Violet Lewis
Mr. Morrison .....Mr. H. A. Monte
Robert Parker ....Mr. Gilbert Elvin
Henry Charlton Rayne Mr. A. George Fry
Miss Butler .....Miss Dallas Yorke
Mr. Ellithorne .....Mr. Sydney King
Horace Ainsworth ....Mr. Lodge Percy

Eve Morrison is a vicar's daughter, who, pining for London life, obtains a situation as typist in the city office of Ainsworth and Parker. The latter has been plunging on the racecourse and on the Stock Exchange, and the firm is faced with ruin. Eve's own father arrives from the country to invest with the firm £1,000, his whole personal property. Ainsworth honourably hands him back his cheque, but Eve persuades her father to entrust it to their safe keeping. When her father has gone she pays it into the bank, and for the moment saves the firm's credit. Parker, returning to the office, finds Eve there at midnight, her object being to look into the books. Parker wishes to get papers from the safe. Eve thwarts him, and threatens him with the police. He draws a revolver, but she strikes it from his hand with a ruler. Parker falls and dies of apoplexy. Next day Eve deals with the situation, supplying the brains to save the firm which Ainsworth lacks. Eve so manipulates a deal on 'Change as to win a fortune. An old investment of Ainsworth's matures also, and her father receives his £1,000 back and £500 besides. There is a side issue of a chief clerk, who tries blackmail, which supplies further exciting episodes—all dealt with successfully by Eve.

Mr. Maltby has written a play which, after the first act, which is merely introductory, holds the attention of the audience in a firm grip. His characterisation is, as usual, well-sketched modern types, and are often brightly drawn and thoroughly amusing. Mr. Lodge Percy gives an easy and very effective rendering of Ainsworth; and Miss Violet Lewis handles all the dramatic moments with telling effect and much skill. Mr. H. A. Monte gives a sympathetic touch to the old parson, which wins much applause. Miss Esther Carthew presents a capital study of the garrulous Mrs. Morrison; Miss Dallas Yorke very cleverly hits off the frivolous typist, Miss Butler; Mr. George Fox is well suited as Rayne; Mr. Sydney Young humorous as Ellithorne; and Mr. Hamilton Jackson finished as Tommy.

'THE ADMIRABLE CRICHTON.'

A Fantasy, in Four Acts, by Sir J. M. Barrie, Revived at the Royalty Theatre on Saturday, Jan. 31.

The Earl of Loam ..Mr. Alfred Bishop
Hon. Ernest Woolley ..Mr. John Astley
Rev. John Treherne Mr. Franklyn Bellamy
Lord Brocklehurst ..Mr. Rudolph Elwes
A Naval Officer ..Mr. Richard Andean
Mr. Crichton .....Mr. Dennis Eadie
Tompsett ..... Mr. Herbert Maule
Lady Mary Lasenby..Miss Julia James
Lady Catherine Lasenby Miss Ann Desmond
Lady Agatha Lasenby Miss Cicely Chance
Countess of Brocklehurst ....Lady Tree
Fisher .....Miss Mira Kenham
Tweeny ..... Miss Sylvia Oakley

The revival of "The Admirable Crichton" at the Royalty on Saturday evening was particularly noteworthy from the fact that it marked the initial venture of a most promising new management (that of Messrs. Curzon and Eadie), and brought Mr. Dennis Eadie back to the West End in a part well worthy of his talents as an actor.

The whimsical humour of the situations has lost none of its charm since the production of the play some fifteen years ago; the ironical touches seem every bit as telling and effective as they did originally, but it was inevitable that the play should have to be slightly revised in the light of modern ideas, otherwise the social upheaval wrought by four years of war and the levelling up of the classes during that period might have deprived it of a great deal of its point. In the original version, it was a case of "as you were" at the fall of the curtain. Bill Crichton, after his brief spell of sovereignty upon the island, returns to his social status quo, content to end his days managing a pub. with his Tweeny. But the war has taught us that few of those who have found their feet and made good on the battlefield are content—and rightly so—to go back to the position of hewers of wood and drawers of water. "England is asleep now," says Crichton in the new version, "but when she is awakened by the roll of the drum, then the Bill Crichtons will get their chance." And so we take leave of him uncertain as to his exact future.

The part of Crichton is, as we have said, full worthy of Mr. Dennis Eadie, and it is no exaggeration to say that he has done nothing better. Both as the ponderous butler and as the resourceful master-by-right and all-dominant spirit of that little shipwrecked party, he in very truth lives up to the name part. Miss Julia James' interpretation of Lady Mary, the haughty society girl, whom the "glamour" of an Arcadian existence at length thaws, was indeed a revelation. In the exhilarating little love scene, when, slave-like, she throws herself at the feet of Crichton, she rose to heights of dramatic intensity that were as thrilling as they were unexpected. A clever performance, too, was that of Miss Sylvia Oakley as the "Tweeny," though at times she was apt rather to over-emphasise the vulgar side of her nature. The Lord Loam of Mr. Alfred Bishop and the Countess of Brocklehurst of Lady Tree were both the brilliant character studies we have come to expect from these experienced artists. Mr. Franklyn Bellamy made a robust and human parson, and Mr. John Astley was sufficiently self-centred and complacent as the Hon. Ernest Woolley.

At a special meeting of the G.W.S. Dramatic Association, held in the Queen's Room on Dec. 25, the open competition for the Association Cup was again won by R. F. Buchan, Coatbridge, who now claims the cup as his own property, having won it on three successive occasions.

Miss Ivy Tresmand has returned to the cast of "The Red Mill" at the Empire Theatre, from which she was compelled to be absent for a few weeks owing to an injured knee.

'A FLAPPER'S MARRIED LIFE.'

Play, in Six Scenes, by Royce Carleton and Oswald Cray, Produced at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, Monday, Feb. 9.

Jem Lambert ..... Mr. Royce Carleton
Harry Cooper ..... Mr. George Able
Roland Bradbury .. Mr. Stanley Marsh
Bert Jarvis .... Mr. Allan Carruthers
David Benson ..... Mr. Conrad Clerke
"Pussyfoot" Thompson Mr. Hugh Wallace
Black Bennett ..... Alias ?
Lottie Gitana ..... Miss Amy Love
Jessie De Vere..Miss Mamie Reindeer
Minnie Sarle ..... Miss Lola Ruby
Mabel Grace ..... Miss Rose Firefly
Cissy Gadgette ..... Miss Pattie Dene
Violet Frayle .. Miss Phyllis Vaughan
Ruth Darrel ..... Miss Laurie Potter

The story reveals how the Loyalty Theatre is run by one of the get-rich-quick fraternity, Roland Bradbury, who makes use of his position to achieve the basest purposes. Jem Lambert returns, after service in France, to find that his flapper-wife has become the mistress of Bradbury, but prevails on her to go home with him. After a few days in his humble cottage, however, she returns to Bradbury, who soon tires of her, as a new actress (Ruth Darrel) engaged by him attracts his attentions. Ruth, despite his lavish presents, determines to go straight. She is, however, lured into Bradbury's house, and saved at a critical moment by her lover, Harry Cooper, whose wife had been mysteriously killed in the Loyalty Theatre. Succeeding scenes are devoted to the adventures that befall Ruth, while "a day in a flapper's married life" is also realistically shown. In the end Bradbury is killed by one of his satellites (Black Bennett), the murderer of Harry Cooper's wife, and Bennett commits suicide. The lighter side is provided by Ruth ("the flapper who went straight") and Jem becoming engaged, and the erring flapper (Violet) promising to be very good to her soldier-husband.

Mr. Oswald Cray's company give a very fair interpretation. The author-actor (Mr. Royce Carleton) was manly as the injured husband, Jem Lambert. Mr. George Able was well cast as Harry Cooper. Miss Laurie Potter was seen to advantage as the "straight flapper," while Miss Phyllis Vaughan depicted with skill the part of Violet. To Mr. Stanley Marsh a word of praise for his rendering of the villainous Roland Bradbury. Mr. Allan Carruthers did well as the valet, Bert Jarvis. Mr. Conrad Clerke made a suave theatrical manager (Benson), and Mr. Hugh Wallace was excellent as an American agitator, "Pussyfoot." Miss Pattie Dene delighted the house as a saucy lady-chauffeur, Cissy Gadgette. Miss Amy Love (Lottie Gitana), Miss Mamie Reindeer (Jessie de Vere), Miss Lola Ruby (Minnie Sarle), Miss Rose Firefly (Mabel Grace), all helped materially in depicting life behind the scenes.

"WILD GEESE."

Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, Book and Lyrics by Ronald Jeans, Music by Charles Cuvillier, Produced at the Royal, Plymouth, on Feb. 2.

Weekes ..... Mr. Gilbert Charles
Sylvia Saltmarsh..Miss Beryl Clifford
Eve .....Miss Hazel Hamilton
Madge ..... Miss Marjorie Waterlow
Dame Agatha Boot..Miss May Beatty
Violet Braid .. Miss Phyllis Monkman
Peregrine Smith .. Mr. Robert Blythe
Hon. Bill Malcolm Mr. Jack Buchanan
Mabel ..... Miss Olive Groves
Daphne ..... Miss Elsie Carlisle
Mrs. Saltmarsh ..Miss Winifred Dennis
Mr. Saltmarsh ..Mr. Gerald Valentine

"Wild Geese," presented by Mr. Andre Charlot at the Royal, Plymouth, on Monday, Feb. 2, had a most enthusiastic reception. The curtain rose on a scene at the Junior Jumper Club, London, the lady members of which had met to denounce mankind in most stringent terms. The prime mover of this down-with-man campaign was Dame Agatha Boot, who, as president, had called the members together to pass resolutions and form rules for the exclusion of man from the club. There is a momentary weakening when two males appear on the scene in the persons of Peregrine Smith and the Hon. Bill Malcolm, but a series of complicating flirtations causes much jealousy, and an anti-man campaign is resolved upon. In the second scene, an island far away in the tropics, we find the fair sex entirely cut off from mankind with the exception of Weekes, who previously had been a waiter at the Club, and who had entered into an agreement to come without his wife and act as man-of-all-work, a position in which he seems to revel. After a while the girls seem to be at their wits' ends to carry on without the companionship of the mere male, and when Peregrine and Billy make their appearance in a yacht there is a speedy collapse of the anti-man campaign, and both Bill and Peregrine secure the girls of their heart, even the formidable Agatha succumbing to her admirer, Weekes. Throughout there is great opportunity for comedy, which is taken full advantage of, and the author has written many witty lines. The music is very dainty, light, and fascinating.

Miss Phyllis Monkman is the leading lady, and is a very charming Violet Braid, her girlish, winsome and unaffected acting delighting the audience. Her dancing, too, is a great feature. Mr. Jack Buchanan, who plays the Hon. Bill Malcolm, was also very successful, his singing and general characterisation of the part leaving nothing to be desired, and his dancing with Miss Monkman was very clever. Mr. Robert Blythe, as Peregrine Smith, and Mr. Gilbert Childs, as Weekes are responsible for much merriment, and contribute greatly to the success of the production. Miss Beryl Clifford's delightful singing and dainty enactment of the part of Sylvia Saltmarsh calls for much praise, and clever Miss May Beatty, in the role of Dame Agatha Boot, does excellent work. The songs throughout are witty and catchy, among the best vocal items being "Toasts," by Messrs. Buchanan, Childs, and Blythe, "Thistledown," by Miss Clifford, and "Woman Every Woman," by Mr. Childs, much applause greeting the duet between Miss Monkman and Weekes. The dresses are of a very handsome and attractive character, that worn by Miss Monkman in the final scene being especially effective.

"ROSE OF ARABY."

Romantic Comic Opera, in Two Acts, by Harold Simpson, Synopsis by Henry Thorp, Music by Merlin Morgan, Produced at Wimbledon Theatre, on Feb. 9.

As the next best thing to producing the "Rose of Araby" at a West-End theatre—as he had intended if one could have been found—Mr. Frederick G. Lloyd presented it at Wimbledon Theatre, on Monday night. Without much risk of being accused of false prophecy later on, one may venture to surmise that wherever seen this "entirely new romantic comic opera" will meet with the happiest success. It has everything in its favour. It is well provided with jolly fun of the always popular sort, the romantic touches, though simple-hearted, ring true; Mr. Merlin Morgan's music, besides being all that is desirable in the way of gracefulness and melodiousness, has distinction in several of its numbers—especially in the poetic (both as to words and music) "Love of Woman," which runs like a motive through the piece, and in the valse, "The Palm Trees," a little gem of melody that only wants hearing to become the rage—and there is quite a good story of sustained interest from beginning to end. Jack Travers has painted his chef d'œuvre, "The Rose of Araby," a portrait of a girl he has lighted upon in an Algerian town. She loves him with a devotion that is not returned until Jack sees his late model put up to auction in the market-place by her rascally—reputed—Arab parents, and, as he thinks, bought by a lieutenant in the Algerian Army. But the lieutenant's rejected sweetheart, Korah, takes Leylah's place, and is knocked down to her faithless lover's bid, much to his subsequent disgust, and Leylah, finding out in the nick of time that she is really the long-lost child of the late Venetian Count Taglioni (pronounced with the "g" by all the company!) gets clear away to her native land in the company of the Count's relict and second spouse, who at that moment happens to be searching Algeria for her. And in Venice, the now ardent Jack re-discovers his desert love, and all ends happily. The "Rose" is fortunate in a strong cast. In Miss Phillis Dupere is a heroine who not only has a voice—a charming light lyric soprano—and can sing, but, moreover, plays with pleasing intelligence and sincerity. A good foil to Leylah's softness is the passionate Zorah, sung by Miss Connie Hilliard, whose warm voice is of the dramatic type, and who does well with her "Flowers of Memory" song. The part of the romantic lover is handsomely served by Mr. Leslie Ward, who both vocally and physically is cut out for a jeune premier. Mr. Stephens Jasper, a telling baritone, as the plotting but frustrated Lieut. Durfen, has a "Wine and Women" song so genial and open-hearted—here again Mr. Harold Simpson is to be congratulated on a neatly turned lyric—that it quite belies his character of the villain of the piece, and he makes a big hit with it.

The comic burden chiefly rests on Miss Lily Moore, very bright, brainy, and amusing as the maid, Hilda from Hackney, "where the cabs come from," and Mr. Percy Cahill, a droll and wide-awake comedian who enacts Travers' manservant, 'Orace Biggles. Their ripe cockneyisms and tendency to drop into dance on every provocation make them a lively and hilarious pair. Mr. Frederick Pitt, as the traditional sporty old boy of musical comedy, General Napolio, has a racy alliterative ditty, with dance, of which he makes the most, and some rollicking moments, wherein he is ably seconded by Miss Florence Lovell as the Countess. All the possible humour, too, is extracted by Miss Marie Brian and Mr. Bellenden Powell out of that precious pair of Arabs on the make, Ziski and Abdullah.

The reception was enthusiastic.

A WOMEN'S "HAMLET."

NOVEL SHAKESPEAREAN PERFORMANCE.

A performance of "Hamlet," the whole of the cast consisting of women, was given by the British Empire Shakespeare Society and Mr. Acton Bond at the Gables Theatre, Surbiton, on Jan. 29 and 30, and was repeated on the Saturday evening at the Passmore Edwards Settlement. The novelty of the performance attracted interested audiences, and, bold as the experiment undoubtedly was, the unqualified success achieved must have been ample reward for Mr. Acton Bond, in whose experienced hands was the direction of affairs, and those who took part in the representation. Naturally the interest centred in the Hamlet, which was played by Miss Eve M. Donne. Tall, well favoured of feature, and graceful of movement, she was in every respect endowed physically for a rôle which a few famous actresses in the past have attempted with varying degrees of success. Any doubts which might have been entertained that the young actress had undertaken too difficult a task for her powers were dispelled before the performance had proceeded very far, her impressive acting in the Ghost scene giving full assurance that she would get through with flying colours. There was abundant evidence of close and careful study of a complex character open to so many different readings, but, what was of still greater importance, Miss Donne gave repeated evidence that she possessed the ability to present to her audience a real live Hamlet, with strikingly vivid contrasts of mood and manner, one of the outstanding features of a thoroughly sound, artistic performance, being the intensity of the expression shown in the outbursts of passion and the shuddering horror of the King's crime. In the lighter passages with his good friends from Elsinore and with Polonius Miss Donne was also admirable.

There were other clever character studies by the ladies, notably Miss Katharine Dyer's excellent Horatio and Miss Maria Slade's robust Laertes. Miss Winifred McCarthy made a decidedly favourable impression by a charming rendering of "the fair Ophelia," and Miss Muriel Crowdy took full advantage of the opportunities offered by the part of Polonius. Claudius and Gertrude had satisfactory representatives in Miss Gwladys Mawr and Miss N. Clarke-Jervoise. The First Player had a particularly competent exponent in Miss Alison MacDonald, and other characters were safely entrusted to the Misses Eileen Gray, G. Champion de Crespigny, Edna Sheldow, Kathleen Bayliss, Vera Castel, Christine Morgan, and others. The Ghost was an unseen one so far as the audience was concerned, but the lines were impressively declaimed by Miss Constance Newell.

OPERA AT THE SURREY.

A WEEK OF PROSPERITY.

The Fairbairn-Miln Opera Co. have enjoyed a week of well-deserved success at this handsome theatre, and the enthusiastic welcome accorded to that ever-popular favourite, "Faust," on the opening night, Feb. 2, has been followed by a series of successes which must have gladdened the hearts of the promoters.

Mr. Thomas Fairbairn, who is the presiding genius, has gathered around him artists of sterling merit, in which youth and experience are happily blended. Of the former, one is grateful to the producer for his discovery of Miss Maryan Elmar, who made her first appearance on any stage last Friday evening as Marguerite, and she scored a personal triumph. Gifted with a glorious soprano voice, she sang Gounod's delightful music with rare feeling and spirit, and her singing of the "Jewel Song" called forth a remarkable ovation. Mr. Augustus Milner made a truly diabolical Mephistopheles. He is a powerful actor, and his singing is beyond reproach. Mr. Frank Webster made an ideal Faust, and he sang in very pleasing style, and Mr. Leslie Austin was quite at home as Valentine.

On Tuesday, "Il Trovatore" was staged, and with such artists appearing as Messrs. Harry Reynolds (Count de Luna) and Edward McKeown (Manrico), with Miss Ida Cooper as Leonora, Verdi's opera was bound to be a success, as indeed it was.

Wednesday evening, "Cavalleria Rusticana," in conjunction with "Pagliacci," was presented, and Miss Ethel Peake, Miss Ida Cooper, both did well, and the same remark applies to Messrs. Harry Reynolds, Leslie Austin, Edward McKeown, and Scott Anderson, the latter's very fine tenor voice being heard to especial advantage.

The chorus have been carefully rehearsed, and we are pleased to compliment them on the remarkable clearness of their enunciation. The orchestra play well, and under the batons of Messrs. Herbert Ferrers and Eldridge Newman.

Mr. Thomas Fairbairn has done his work well, for each opera has been carefully and painstakingly produced, and the scenery is delightful.

THE KENNINGTON.

Mr. Ernest C. Rolls has every reason to congratulate himself on the success attending "Aladdin" at the Kennington. The pantomime is still going strong, as judged by the large audience present on Monday afternoon. Miss Jennie Benson was unfortunately absent on this occasion, but Miss Norah Guy formed an agreeable substitute. Mr. Dick Tubb, though obviously unwell, pluckily persevered in his part as Widow Twankey, and fully deserved the cordial reception that awarded his efforts. Mr. Fred Leslie does remarkably well as Abanezer, and Miss Mabel Green's beautiful voice and charming presence give distinction to the character of Princess Zolindi. Wee Georgie Wood is a prime favourite, his strong sense of humour and his naturalness as Wishee Washee irresistibly appealed to the audience, grown-up and juvenile alike, his rendering of "Where Do Flies Go in the Winter Time?" and the business accompanying this roused the audience to a high pitch of enthusiasm. The Bros. Griffiths in their lion taming and wrestling acts are another success. The recently introduced scene, in which a large airship (conveying the Princess and Aladdin) appears, is another feature which will help towards the successful run of the piece.

WINDSOR NEW THEATRE ROYAL.

So great was the success of Mr. Percy Hutchison's company with "The Luck of the Navy" here last year that the management have this week secured an early return visit of this popular play. Mr. Norman B. Cannon, with his fine stage presence, gives an alert and breezy performance of Lieut. Clive Stanton, V.C. Mr. Arthur Barclay presents the part of Sub-Lieut. Peel in admirable style. Mr. Bertram Siems is in his element in the humorous rôle of Midshipman Wing Eden. Engineer Lieut.-Commander Perrin finds an able exponent in Mr. Victor Boggetti. Mr. Jackson Wilcox scores in a powerful and earnest piece of work as Schaffer. Mr. Alec Forbes is a very natural Admiral Maybridge; and Francois is commendably impersonated by Mr. P. Stainer. A winsome Cynthia Eden is presented by Miss Kathleen Evans. There is plenty of vivacity in the pleasing efforts of Miss Phyllis Claude as Dora Green; and an exceptionally clever study of Mrs. Gordon Peel is given by Miss Mary McDermott.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Happy Returns to—

Mona Vivian, Wednesday, Feb. 11.
Lydia Flopp, Wednesday, Feb. 11.
Sidney Crowe, Wednesday, Feb. 11.
Frank Lyndon, Wednesday, Feb. 11.
W. A. Onda, Wednesday, Feb. 11.
Marie Lloyd, Thursday, Feb. 12.
Hugh Marleyn, Thursday, Feb. 12.
R. M'Lean, Thursday, Feb. 12.
Edgar Bateman, Saturday, Feb. 14.
V. Birkett, Saturday, Feb. 14.
F. G. Lewis, Saturday, Feb. 14.
Israel Zangwill, Saturday, Feb. 14.
C. D. O'Connor, Sunday, Feb. 15.
Will Smithson, Monday, Feb. 16.
Winnie Stanhope, Monday, Feb. 16.
Nita Clavering, Monday, Feb. 16.
Joseph Wilson, Monday, Feb. 16.
Arthur Shirley, Tuesday, Feb. 17.
J. Farren Soutar, Tuesday, Feb. 17.
Edward German, Tuesday, Feb. 17.
Frank Parker, Tuesday, Feb. 17.

BERNSTEIN'S "LE SECRET."

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Sir,—With reference to the statement of the French Players that they presented Henry Bernstein's play, "Le Secret," for the first time in England, a statement copied by every newspaper, it is interesting to recall that the late Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore presented Mme. Simone at the New in June, 1913, in her original part of Gabrielle Jeannelot, supported by Claude Garry and Victor Boucher, also in their original parts, in Bernstein's masterpiece, "Le Secret." The two previous weeks they presented Mme. Jeanne Granier and full company and effects in "L'Habit Vert," en bloc from the Theatre des Varietes, Paris. A most interesting three weeks. I was the stage manager.—Yours faithfully,

FRANCIS SERLE,

New Theatre, Jan. 31. Stage Manager for Matheson Lang.

"THE GREAT BARRIER."

Drama, in Six Scenes, by Clifford Rean, produced at the Theatre Royal, West Bromwich, on Monday, Feb. 2.

Lieut. Alan Boyne, R.N. ..James Stillwell
Jason Burney ....Geoffrey Sutherland
Irma Burney ....Miss Zana St. George
Mrs. Boyne .....Miss Marie Payne
Laburnum Stowattle
Miss Kathleen Russell
Jack Yardsley, A.B. .. Frank Brunell
Jep Goldman ..... .Chas. H. Herbert
The Rev. John Dawson..Robert Crosby
Henobia ..... Harry Cullenford
Dorena .....Miss Florence Lyndon

The scene of the story is the Island of Zarmia, in the Samoan Group. The heroine is a young girl, an orphan, who is brought up by Henobia, the chief of the natives. Lieut. Alan Boyne, who is on a visit to the island for naval purposes, falls in love with the girl; but a ship, which is expected, arrives to convey him and his assistant Jack Yardsley home. The girl is left broken-hearted, but the old chief, on learning the reason of her distress, reveals the secret of her birth, telling her she is the daughter of Martin Vernon, a successful pearl fisher, who was murdered by his partner, Jason Burney. The latter, however, had failed to discover where Vernon had hidden his pearls. The old chief possesses this knowledge, and with the pearls in their possession leave the island for England by the next trading boat. Burney, who has also murdered a man named Jep Goldman, and attempted to throw suspicion on Allan, follows the latter home, and tries to arrange a marriage between him and Irma Burney, Jason's sister. But the scheme fails, and when Jason threatens to denounce him as the murderer of Goldman, the old chief tells him he lies, and that he, Jason, is the murderer, and moreover accuses him of the murder of Vernon years before. Jason tries to silence him with a revolver, but the old man is too quick for him, and in a brief struggle kills him, thus avenging his friend, Martin Vernon's death, and making a happy ending for Alan and Dorma. The humorous business between Jack Yardsley, A.B., and Laburnum Stowattle is exceedingly funny, and kept the house in roars of laughter.

Mr. James Stillwell gave a strong and breezy portrayal of Lieut. Alan Boyne. Mr. Geoffrey Sutherland was responsible for powerful acting in the character of Jason Burney. Mr. Harry Cullenford's embodiment of Henobia deserves a word of praise. The Dorena of Miss Florence Lyndon was played with the simplicity and tact the part required. Miss Zana St. George was all that could be wished for as the cunning Irma Burney. The comedy parts were safe in the hands of Miss Kathleen Russell, and Mr. Frank Brunell; and the remainder of the characters were capably sustained.

BRIGHTON STOCK PLAYERS.

The Brighton stock company of professional and amateur players has been recently formed to encourage the production of good and original plays. Their initial performance took place on Jan. 30, at the Ralli Hall, Hove, when a large audience gave a cordial reception to the programme, which consisted of four short plays and sundry musical interludes.

"Waiting for the 'Bus," a happy skit on a London crowd waiting for a 'bus, by Gertrude Jennings, was the opening piece. This presented opportunities for varied and humorous studies of character. Mrs. P. Morris was particularly successful in impersonating the "elevated" lady; Misses K. Morley and Francis Davis, two of the "newly rich"; Mrs. Armstrong Dash, a mother; Misses Dorothy Darrell and R. Hill, suburban ladies; Misses Noreen Greenyer and Esmee Lyons, typists; and Mr. Hugh Moore, civil servant; whilst Mr. Roy Clements was deliciously stolid as the policeman.

Following was the touching "Saint Cecelia," by Pauline Phelps and Marion Short. Cecelia is recovering from an illness, and is to be married on the morrow to Philip. But Philip has fallen in love with her sister Betty, and she with him. Cecelia overhears a passionate episode between them, and, sacrificing her own dream of future happiness, decides to disappear. The dangerous tonic she is taking offers a way. She drinks the whole potion and dies. The plot is delicately and pathetically unfolded, Miss Barbara Zwinger acting with natural charm as Betty, Miss Esmé Greenyer and Mr. Phillps being excellent in other parts.

"Over the Hills," by John Palmer, tells of a wanderer who has settled down to married life, but who affects to long for the wild life "over the hills" on a stormy night. Martin Durrant, the companion of his former travels, turning up, he has the opportunity of rejoining him. The wife, to teach him a lesson in content, insists he goes. He faces the storm, but after an interval returns, as his wife anticipated, to all the comforts of a home. Miss Vera Marks represented the wife in finished style; Messrs. F. Ronald and W. Somers were excellent as the men; and Miss P. Morris was capital as the maid.

A fishing village in Andalusia is the picturesque setting of Esme Tudor's little play, "Vengeance is Mine." It is also the background of an exciting series of episodes. Dolores has lost her memory ever since the fatal night of her brother's murder. The return of the suspected Thomase and the guilty Pedro and their quarrel revives her recollection. With great intensity of feeling she enacts the scene of the awful night before the astonished villagers outside the posada. Pedro would have killed her, but is overpowered. Dolores was quite a tragic study by Miss Francis Davis, and her efforts were rewarded with loud applause. Miss Stella Bower danced the bolero skilfully, and was obliged to repeat it. Mrs. P. Morris, Mr. Hugh Moore, Mr. Eric Greenyer, Mr. Phillips, and others contributed to the general success.

Miss Thistle Rose sang taking songs, and the company's orchestra played varied music in the intervals.

A matinée in aid of the Y.M.C.A. (Red Triangle Club for Boys) and Friend of the Poor (Disabled Soldiers Embroidery Industry) is to be given at the Globe Theatre on Friday, the 13th inst., when a modern comedy in three acts, by Charles Thornton, is to be performed for the first time. Mr. Colley Salter will produce the new play, and Lady Alexander has kindly undertaken the sale of programmes.

AMATEURS IN ACTION.

THE STAMHURST PLAYERS.

Under the auspices of the Hackney Photographic Society, the Stamhurst Players, which, like so many other dramatic societies, was quiescent during the war, broke out again on Wednesday, Jan. 21, at Cripplegate Institute, with J. H. Darnley's clever farce, "Facing the Music." Considering that this was quite the younger generation of actors, all but two of them being minors, whilst the orchestra was under the direction of Mr. Stanford Robinson, a youth of fifteen, who was responsible for the overture, an exhilarating and promising piece of work, the ensemble may be voted excellent. Mr. Chesterton Brown did well as the mild-mannered clergyman who finds himself so grossly misunderstood; Mr. Wroughton Baker, who produced the play, put plenty of go into the part of the racketty young husband, who gets the freedom of the City of London when his wife goes to Dover; and Mr. Sidney V. Clifford thoroughly entered into the fun of the farce as his gay bachelor friend, Dick Desmond. Mr. Arthur Scott most amusingly enacted the part of the over-astute detective, Sergeant Duffill, of Vine-street; and Major Warden Dennise did all that was required of him as Uncle Colonel Duncan Smith. Miss Kathleen Chubb was excellent as the shrewd, good-natured housekeeper, Mrs. Ponting; Miss Lorna Baker entered thoroughly into the spirit of the piece as Nora; whilst Miss Phyllis Baker was bright and alert as Mabel. Miss Marjorie Secker essayed the part of the bijou actress, Miss Fotheringay, and all combined to make the fun wax fast and furious as the play proceeded.

"MERRIE ENGLAND" AT CRIPPLEGATE.

The London Operatic and Dramatic Society, under the enterprising directorship of Mr. J. Stanley-Verde, made an ambitious venture when they produced "Merrie England" at the Cripplegate Theatre. This ambition was fully justified, for Mr. Stanley-Verde attained an artistic success. The choruses, "Roses Red and Roses White" and "My Bottle and I," were especially striking, and the vocalisation throughout was of the highest order. The concerted numbers were all faultlessly rendered. Miss Ida Norton achieved a great personal triumph as Jill-All-Alone. She has a melodious voice, and uses it most effectively, her upper notes being singularly sweet and pure. Mr. Leonard Durrant, as the Earl of Essex, is the possessor of a voice of considerable power and compass, and his rendering of "Yeomen of England" was enthusiastically encored. Mr. Basil Mercer as Raleigh used his light tenor voice skilfully, and his "Every Jack Should Have a Jill" and "Cupid's Garden" were given with taste and expression. Miss Rhoda Whiley was a stately and able Bessie Throckmorton. "She Lost a Letter from Her Love" was beautifully rendered by Miss Whiley, and the duet, "Pipes of Pan," with Raleigh, won a hearty recall. Mr. Reginald Western as Walter Walkins won everyone's heart by his fresh and whimsical humour, and the encore he received for his song and chorus, "Mistresses of the Sea," was the biggest of the night. Mr. T. L. Humphreys as Silas Simkins was very good, and Mr. Maurice Snellgrove and Mr. Fred H. Tomblin made a couple of excellent foresters. Mr. Dennis James was amusing as a butcher, and his efforts were adequately assisted by Mr. George Bradley as a baker, Mr. A. J. Ives as a tinker, Mr. B. C. Newman as a tailor, and Mr. J. J. Colline as a wine vendor. Miss Vera Benna and Miss Bishop were a couple of graceful pages. The Queen Elizabeth of Miss Dorothea Franklin lacked animation, but she sang "Fair England" quite well. Miss Dorothy Hunt was very good as the May Queen. The dancing throughout was graceful and dainty, but the palm was carried away by Miss Bertha Sandland, whose solo dance in the second act was remarkably fine.

CORNHILL DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

The Cornhill Dramatic Society, an organisation which contains within its sphere the stage ambitions of the staffs of several of the London banks, gave a highly creditable performance of "The Odd Man Out" before a large and appreciative audience of friends and associates at the Guildhall School of Music on Jan. 22. "Odd Man Out," which is from the clever pen of Mr. Harold Brighouse, was originally produced at the Royalty Theatre in April, 1912.

The story is full of amusing complications and quaint situations, of which the company took full advantage. In the role of Daniel Weir, Mr. J. Edgar Pattison scored heavily. Miss Gwendolin Amlot was excellently placed as Barbara Weir, giving a bright reading of the part. Mr. Peter Burrows acted with much humour as Dick Carrington, and the Jonas Enderby of Mr. Herbert Vernon Cooper was skilfully drawn. Miss Dorothy Boyd had no easy task to interpret Constance Enderby, but she acquitted herself admirably, and Mr. Deane Allard was first-class as Lawrence Enderby. Miss Margaret Tolma made a very good servant, and the Dolores of Miss Dorothy Hunt was well sustained. The play was produced under the direction of Mr. J. Edgar Pattison, whilst Mr. T. F. Davies acted as stage-manager. During the evening there were some delightful selections by Miss Florence Bridge's orchestra.

"THE RIVALS" AT CLAPTON.

A very creditable performance of Sheridan's famous comedy, "The Rivals," was given, under the direction of Mme. H. E. Warshaw, by the Glyn-road Dramatic Society on Saturday evening, before a large audience of enthusiastic friends. The performance was remarkable in that all the characters were impersonated by ladies, an excellent rendering of Sir Anthony Absolute, at the hands of Miss Bertha Gross being, perhaps, the feature of the show. All the characters were intelligently handled, and, as a whole, the result reflected the greatest credit on Mme. Warshaw and her willing associates. The excellent orchestra was under the direction of Mr. Thomas Everard.

DELPHIC DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

The Delphic Dramatic Society, of which Mr. Charles Hawtrey is president, achieved a distinct success in its staging of C. Haddon Chambers' comedy, "The Tyranny of Tears," at the Cripplegate Theatre, Golden Lane, on Saturday, the 31st ult. The part of Clement Parbury was effectively played by Mr. David Fresco, while the weak and selfish wife was admirably portrayed by Miss Dora Landau. Mr. Leonard Courteney was the debonair cynic, George Gunning, and Mr. Charles Greene presented to the life the gay old Col. Armitage. Miss Jennifer Wolfe was successful in her representation of Hyacinth Wood, Parbury's secretary. The minor parts of Parbury's butler, and Caroline, Mrs. Parbury's maid, were finished character sketches in the hands of Mr. Herbert Walters and Miss Mildred Curzon respectively. The Aeolian Trio played selections during the evening.

STUDIO CLUB THEATRICALS.

Two interesting and well-contrasted plays were performed at the Studio Club on Jan. 22. "The Great Moment" has been seen before at a command performance at the St. James's Theatre, and is a tense and thrilling play of the Reign of Terror, showing the subterfuges adopted by Margot St. Remy, an actress, to rescue her aristocrat lover, Armand de Grandfoix, from the clutches of the public prosecutor. Miss Constance Burleigh's Margot was a polished performance, with a delightful suspicion of a French accent. Miss Gwen Lally played the lover, whilst Mr. H. Brough-Robertson was perhaps inclined to overdo the bestiality of the constantly expectorating Tinville. Special mention must be made of a neat character study by Miss Helen Forest as Margot's housekeeper.

"Ede's Trouble" is a study of life in mean streets. All the familiar characters are there—the gin-sodden mother, the malicious woman-friend, and the brutal father. It was from such a home as this that Ede had fled two years previously, and it was to this squalid interior that she returned, bearing her "trouble," an infant boy, in her arms. Rejected by her drunken mother, Ede is surprised to meet a kindly welcome from the father, at whose hands she had expected nothing better than heavy blows. The play points no particular moral, unless we are to believe that a man is normally more forgiving than a woman in these cases. The authoress, Mrs. Harold Gorst, shows a keen insight into human nature. Miss Laura Smithson's drunken mother was a wonderful piece of characterisation, whilst Miss Constance Burleigh again distinguished herself as Ede. The remaining parts were played by Miss Helen Forest and Mr. Otto Sallman. Both plays were excellently produced by Mr. H. Brough-Robertson.

THE NEW MOVEMENT OF THE THEATRE.

DINNER AT THE LYCEUM CLUB.

The Dramatists' Board of the Lyceum Club on Monday evening entertained a number of theatrical celebrities to dinner, for the purpose of discussing the new movement of the theatre. Mrs. Herbert Cohen, who presided, welcomed the guests in a brief and happy speech, in the course of which she said she felt that a real effort should be made to establish popular non-commercial theatres in our midst for the elevation, not only of the masses, but of the so-called better classes, who needed it really much more than any other.

Mr. Norman McDermott, who responded on behalf of the Everyman Theatre, said they realised that the theatre was a vital factor in social organisation. To-day there was an audience which demanded good plays. London had gone to Hammersmith, but Hammersmith should not be the Mecca of London. There should be at least a dozen theatres doing similar work. The theatre must sooner or later be dissociated from the idea that it was a place where large sums of money could be made easily. Until that was realised there was no real hope of a theatre worthy of its place in our social organisation.

Miss Cicely Hamilton, who had a warm welcome, made reference in her speech to her five years' experiences in France, and pointed out that the great difficulty was that every new movement in the theatre in England got into the hands of the crank as opposed to the critics. What was really wanted was healthy, helpful criticism, and not the enthusiasm of the crank.

Mr. Albert Rutherston and Mr. Leon M. Lion both contributed instructive addresses to the symposium, and a happy speech was also made by Sir Edward Marshall Hall.

Miss Marjorie Stevens, the accomplished and charming young English dancer, is now appearing as première danseuse in "The Whirligig" at the Palace.

LILY LENA.

Theatre—*Bushwick*
Style—*Singing comedienne.*
Time—*Seventeen minutes.*
Setting—*One.*

Lily Lena, the English comedienne, is back with all her pleasing personality, coupled to which is a voice that by no means is the best we have heard, and yet, withal, pleases. Also, she has a nicely arranged cycle of special numbers.

She opens with a number entitled "She's a whix, bang, crash, slam, Cosmopolitan Girl." This is followed by a character number called "We do it much different in Lancashire." After a wait of about thirty seconds in which time she changes costumes, donning a very nifty aviator effect, she offered a number called "I could learn to be a good little boy, with a good little girl like you." Her last number, which also carries with it a change of costume, is a number in which she tells what she and her sweetheart do in the different rooms of her apartment. As can easily be surmised, the audience expects a suggestive finish, but it isn't there.

Miss Lena should find the going very easy here, for she has the mysterious something that audiences like, and, with the addition of one or two up-to-date American comedy numbers we shall not be surprised to see her become a big favourite. S. K.

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These calls are communicated by the management for the convenience of Artistes without prejudice.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1920.

No Deputies will be accepted at Rehearsals. Any Artistes absenting themselves will be liable to have their contracts cancelled.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
"Joy-Bells."

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Fred Duprez, Harry Thurston and Company in "Lucky Old Bill," Gordon and Rica, The Zras, Garadini, Jock McKay, The Romanesca Quartette.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
George Carney, Fred Barnes, Arthur Ferriss, Bromley Carter, Betty Washington, Frank Le Dent, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Magini, Olive Dean, Les Eldons, George Morton, Femina Quartette, Gilday and Fox.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Ruth Vincent, Strength Bros., Misery and Co., Finlay Dunn, George Wilbey, Clovelly Girls, Jack and Tommie.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Albert de Courville's "Joy-Bells."

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Roxy La Rocca, Togan and Geneva, Rolf Slater, Trevor and Ware, Courtenay and Robins, Spalding and Vanguard, Susie Marney.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for
Artists as booked.
Will Artists kindly note that the Cardiff Olympia bars the Cardiff Hippodrome, and that no Variety Agent has the Sole Bookings for the former Theatre?

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Fred Karno presents "Money to Burn," Dainty Danes, Rich Hayes, Les Tumilet.

EMPIRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Gertie Gitana, John, Harry and Burton Lester, Ernest Hastings, David Poole, Daly and Healy, Yelson Trio, Willie Rolls, Twelvetrees Trio.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Moss' Empires, Ltd., present "Jack and Jill," Pantomime.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Coram, Lake and Barrasford, Elliott Savonas, Musical McGregors, Florence Yaymen, Duncan's Collies, Maher and Langford.
(Matinee Monday, at 2.30.)

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
J. L. Davies and Alfred Zeitlin present "A Midnight Frolic," Mabel Mann, Havanna Troupe, Peter Bernard, Donald and Carson, Dorane and Wood.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Glen Cornetta, Jock Harris, &c.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Beatie and Babs, "Symphonia," Polnski and Mott, Yost and Lady Partner, Russell Carr Esta Stella.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
The Wylie-Tate Pantomime "Jack and the Beanstalk."

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Florrie Forde's Pantomime "Red Riding Hood."

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Fred Karno presents "Hustle," Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Tom E. Hughes, Bandmaster Morris.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Carl Hertz, Kirkby and Hudson, Austin Rudd, Horace Jones and Mollie Claire, Dick and Jim Mortimer, Harry Atkinson.

ALHAMBRA, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.15 p.m. for:—
Hedges Bros. and Jacobson, Arthur Vivian, Peake and Co., Nathano Bros., Gillen, Arthur Pond, Les Bastiens, Gilbert and French.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Ella Shields, Wood and Court, Frank Benson, Harold Walden, The Westwoods, Alfred Leonard and Adeline Valery, Four Swifts, McDonald Watson and Co.

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Marie Loftus, Max Darewski, Wilson Hallett, Sam Barton, Hector and Lolletta, Jock McPherson, Three Sisters O'Hara.

EMPIRE CINEMA, NEWCASTLE.
Picture entertainments.

KING'S THEATRE, SOUTHSEA.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
Albert de Courville's "Same to You."

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"Making Movies," Penrose and Whitlock.
Artists are requested to bring Band Parts for full Orchestra, including Horns and Bassoon.
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"Odds On."
(Note.—South Shields bars Tynemouth.)
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Manny and Roberts, Tom Clare, Milet Stavordale Quintette, Sisters Weston, Five Nuts, Hamamura Family.
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE, GATESHEAD.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
G. H. Elliott, Zetta Mor, F. V. St. Clair, The Recos, Three Laurals, Emilie Hayes.
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

PALACE THEATRE, SALFORD.
(Late Regent Theatre.)
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Albert de Courville's "Tip Top."

Artistes' Business must be absolutely free from vulgarity.

Special provision has been made at each Theatre for the exhibition of loose Photographs. Artistes are invited to supply these to the Manager on reaching the Theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

Scenery and Properties must be fire-proofed to approval of Local Authorities.

Applications for Engagements by Artistes or their Agents must be addressed to Head Office. State salaries required for (a) West End, (b) Suburban, (c) Large, and (d) Small Provincial Halls. A list of existing engagements must be enclosed. Artistes are requested to accredit only one Agent at the same time and to notify the Company immediately of any change of Agents.

Silence a polite negative.

Artistes desirous of submitting their Acts at private auditions should communicate with Head Office

NOTE.—These Matinées are discontinued until further notice.

Engagements of Artistes are subject to cancellation if the following requirements are not observed:—

(1) Matter for bills and programmes, blocks, specimens of pictorials (if any) and a list of engagements with (a) in the case of singers, copies of the songs and patter, (b) in the case of sketch proprietors copies of the scripts as licensed and copies of the Lord Chamberlain's Licence, must be sent to Head Office three weeks at least before opening.
(2) Artistes must attend rehearsals, no deputies being accepted.
(3) **Press Matter and Photos.** Star Artistes, Feature, and Speciality Acts are requested to furnish the Press Publicity Department (Representative, Mr. Alfred Davies) with any interesting matter pertaining to their turn, with latest photos (non-copyright), for newspaper reproduction, three weeks before opening.

Important Notice to Artistes and Agents. When an Artiste or Act having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the contracts will be sent to the Agent who negotiated the last engagement, unless notice has been received from the Artiste that this is not desired.

Contracts and Orders. No contracts or orders for services or goods will be recognised unless upon an Official Form issued from Head Office and signed by the **Managing Director** or **Business Manager**, and the Company concerned may refuse payment for all services rendered or goods supplied except in accordance with this notice.

Invoices must be sent to the Theatre or Department to which goods are supplied, but monthly statements must be sent to Head Office.

The Company on whose behalf Contracts or Orders are signed is solely responsible for payment.

The Company will not hold itself responsible for loss or damage to Manuscripts, Songs, etc., submitted or sent to it for any purpose.

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Next, T.R., Dublin.

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This week, Palace Theatre, Bow.

FROM THE PROVINCES.

NOTES AND NEWS OF TOURING PLAYS.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Arthur Carlton, J.P.; R. M., Mr. Shelford Walsh; Mus. D., Mr. C. W. Hodges.—The Bath Operatic Society, for the second time within six months, are in possession this week, and are presenting "The Mikado." Mr. Shelford Walsh, the resident manager, is again acting as producer for the society, and Mr. H. Brice Mundy (our local correspondent) wields the bâton as hon. musical conductor.

PALACE.—D., Mr. W. S. Pearce.—Fred Karno's "Moon Struck" creation is drawing overflowing crowds here this week.

Boots, The Chemists, 21-22, Union-street; 56, Southgate-street.

BLYTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Scottish Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Fred Reed; R. M., Mr. G. Crow; Mus. D., Mr. Wm. Littleborough.—Varieties by Sidney Black, comedian and dancer, Grace Cunard, The Queen of Clubs, Tom Williams, vocalist, and The Ambre Quartette.

Boots, The Chemists, 37, Waterloo-road.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole P., Messrs. David Allen and Sons; Sole L., Mme. Gertrude Mouillot; R. M., Mr. Hubert Dunbar; Mus. D., Mr. Tom Brown.—Mr. Frank Curzon and Mr. Gerald du Maurier's company are here in "Dear Brutus."

BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Claude E Manner; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Leake.—Albert de Courville's "Keep 'Em Alive," with Jack Gallagher, Ruby Lester, Lilian Barnes, &c., is the attraction this week.

Boots, The Chemists, 108, Commercial-road; 76-78, Old Christchurch-road; 50, Charminster-road; 302, Holdenhurst-road; 20-22, Southborne-grove.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. Nat Hepworth; M., Mr. W. Havers.—The last two weeks of the successful run of "Goody Two-Shoes" are billed.

PRINCE'S.—L., Mr. Francis Laidler; M., Mr. Frank Yearsley.—"The Babes in the Wood" continues to run merrily, and enjoy uninterrupted success.

ALHAMBRA.—M. D., Mr. Francis Laidler.—Pattman and his £3,000 organ; Pasquali Bros., tumblers and equilibrists; Rosa Loader and Tom Laney, comedienne and partner; Haley's Juveniles, in vocal scena; Officer Vokes presents "Don," the canine inebriate.

PALACE.—P., Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit, Ltd.; M., Mr. Ernest Liston.—George Morton, coloured comedian; Les Nosscias, Parisian novelty; Harvey Brinton, comedian at the piano; Will E. Hall, light comedian and entertainer; The Operettes, operatic vocalists; Malvina, fiddler.

Boots, The Chemists, 60-62, Kirkgate.

BURNLEY.

VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—P., Burnley Victoria Opera House Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—Leonard Laurence and Dorothy West-Symes present "Moths," "Alias Jimmy Valentine," and "Leah Kleschna."

EMPIRE.—P., Victoria Opera House Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—Dr. Walford Bodie in new and startling wonders; B. Chimes, the black-faced nugget; J. Gold, comedian; Gwennie Atkins, the Welsh skylark; Jasper and Vernon, pot pourri act; Carmencita, famous dansense; "The Laird's Birthday Party," ventriloquial sketch.

PALACE.—P., Palace and Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. H. Rintoul.—W. H. Squire, Lily Fairney and Auriol Jones, in musical sketches; the Great Morritt, the mystery man; Those Four Kids, in a happy razzle; The Uniques, comedy cyclists; Joe Dixon, in novelty songs; The Kobes, Japanese entertainers; Harold Moss and Isabel Maachah, in musical fantasy.

Boots, The Chemists, 90, St. James-st.

BURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Wm. Holland; M. D., Mr. H. Bridge.—The D'Oyly Carte Opera Company, in Gilbert and Sullivan operas, is the attraction this week.

Boots, The Chemists, 5, Silver-st.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Sec. and G. M., Mr. F. A. Hastings; Mus. D., Mr. G. F. Burgiss.—The Taylor-Platt Company, "Nurse Benson."

HIPPODROME.—L. and M., Mr. Allan Milton; Mus. D., Mr. Reg. Goddard.—Horace Ainsley, the new entertainer; pictures, &c.

PICTURE HOUSE.—P., Mr. Allan Milton; M., Mr. Geo. Taylor. — Continuous exhibition daily.

Boots, The Chemists, 46-50, Spring-gardens.

CANNOCK.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. B. Kennedy; M., Mr. H. Billman; Mus. D., Mr. A. A. Thompson.—Charm's Enterprises present "Babes in the Wood."

CHELTENHAM.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—L., Mr. Robert Redford; G. M., Mr. H. Oswald Redford; Mus. D., Mr. H. Teague.—Mr. Louis Calvert is appearing in "Daddalums."

COLISEUM.—P., Mr. H. G. Beard; R. M., Mr. A. H. Greenland.—The Five Wartons top the bill this week, supported by Reg. Wentworth, the Fitzroys, Billy Housini and company, Evelyn Tyser, Edna Deno, and Win and Windle.

Boots, The Chemists, 129-130, High-street.

CIRENCESTER.

BINGHAM THEATRE.—C. Vernon Proctor's company in "What Happened to Jones."

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE. — M., Mr. Frank J. Pitt.—Chalmers Mackey and company.

DEVONPORT.

HIPPODROME.—G. M., Mr. A. W. Harper; M. D., Mr. J. Woolf.—Second week of the successful pantomime, "Aladdin."

DOVER.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Twice nightly.—Haidee King and Wallace Kingston, in their tabloid musical comedy, "A Resourceful Lover"; Ernest Roma, vocal character comedian; Jan Ralfini, dancing violinist; the Two Merry Lees, in their episode, "The Cinema Plot"; Syd Keith, comedian, in singing and dancing; the Brothers Austin, acrobatic comedians; George Daley, argumentative comedian.

KING'S HALL. — Pictures; Brett and Brenton, the naval comedians, in argumentative and dancing act.

Boots, The Chemists, 11, Cannon-st.

GAINSBOROUGH.

KING'S THEATRE. — L., Mr. Arthur Carlton; R. M., Mr. Stanley Hooper; Mus. D., Mrs. E. E. Leaning. — Mr. Harry Firth's pantomime company is here all the week in "Little Red Riding Hood."

Boots, The Chemists, 30, Market-place.

GLOUCESTER.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. John R. Poole; G. M., Mr. E. J. Rogers; Mus. D., Mr. Morrell.—Mr. Walter Howard's company in "Seven Days' Leave."

HIPPODROME.—P., Gloucester Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Mus. D., Mr. T. Elliss.—The Gloucester Amateur Operatic Society present Gilbert and Sullivan's "Ruddigore" in aid of local charities.

Boots, The Chemists, 139, Westgate-st.; 94-95, Northgate-st.

GOOLE.

COLISEUM.—P. and M., Mr. Ben Popplewell; Asst. M., Mr. Eric Popplewell; M. D., Mr. Leo. E. Egar.—Ben Bojamaa Arabe Troupe of Acrobats; Alf Sims, M.M., comedian; Lawrence and Bowie, musical comedy entertainers; Phyllis and Giles, in "On the Farm"; Henry Hilton, comedy magician, assisted by Miss Della; Lily Williams Madge presents "A Lesson in Flirting"; and Miss Ellis Drake and company in Scotch playlet, "Oh! Mother."

GREENOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—P. and M., Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright; Mus. D., Mr. James Murchie.—Mr. Harry Joseph presents Miss Lena Stanton's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," twice nightly, and matinée on Saturday.

Boots, The Chemists, 24, Hamilton-street.

GUILDFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The County and Boro' Halls Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. H. Barr; Mus. Dir., Mr. A. Woods.—Chas. Macdona's company in "The Chinese Puzzle" is the attraction here.

Boots, The Chemists, 113, High-st.

HALIFAX.

ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin James.—The Andre Charlot production, "Buoody," is making its first appearance here. A strong company includes Phyllis Whitney, Elsie Stevens, Edith Payne, and Edward Steadman.

GRAND.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. J. Hinton; Mus. D., Mr. L. Crabtree.—The drama, "Her Life of Pleasure," provides the attraction here. It is presented by Mr. Frank Liston's company.

PALACE.—P., The Palace Theatre (Halifax), Ltd.; M., Mr. E. O. Waller; Mus. D., Mr. W. Davidson.—The musical comedy burlesque, "Heads or Tails," supplies the full programme here. George Norton, Molly Doon, and Lynn Wright together with many other capable artists, help to provide a most diverting entertainment.

Boots, The Chemists, 1, Cornmarket.

HANLEY.

ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. Frank Powis; Mus. D., Mr. George Turner.—"His Little Widows" is presented by Mr. Bernard Hishin's principal company.

GRAND.—M. D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. Albert Bulmer; Mus. D., Mr. Isaac H. Cartmell.—Hetty King, the incomparable male impersonator, heads a strong bill, supported by the Quaint Q's; Roy Dove, humorist; Oreste, saxaphonist; the Highleys, a comedy couple; and the Mountfords, a comedy combination.

Boots, The Chemists, 24-26, Piccadilly.

HULL.

PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires; M., Mr. J. Barnett; Mus. D., Mr. A. Leader.—Mr. Fred Kitchen is inimitable in the revue, "Same to You." Other comedians in the cast include Frank Major, Hal Bryan, George Pughe, Wally Walford and Luke Dawe, whilst the chief ladies are Lily Vine, Ennis Parkes, and Gladys Horridge.

TIVOLI. — P., Kingston Varieties Co.; M., Mr. G. W. Ashton.—Lew Lake presents the American success, "Me and My Gal,"—featuring Brandon and Robbins, and it is proving a most popular production.

Boots, The Chemists, 10-12, King Edward-street.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM.—P., Ipswich Lyceum, Ltd.; L., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Miss E. Parkyn; Mus. D., Mr. H. Lewin Taylor.—Macdonald and Young's company in "The Naughty Wife."

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. R. Hendry; Mus. D., Mr. T. Stockham.—Jack Cromo's company in pantomime, "Jack and Jill."

Boots, The Chemists, 22, Tavern-st.; 52, Westgate-st.

KETTERING.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—M., Messrs. A. M. Bailey and Co.—The J. W. Turner Grand English Opera Company is here for the week, appearing in "Il Trovatore," "Samson and Delilah," "Tannhauser," &c.

COLISEUM. — P., Messrs. Thompson Bros.—Mr. Bert Grapho is paying a personal visit in his pantomimic revue, "What a Lad!"

Boots, The Chemists, 31-32, Market-street.

KEIGHLEY.

HIPPODROME. — L., Mr. Francis Laidler; M., Mr. J. Austin Walshaw; Mus. D., Mr. Walter Lupton.—Charles Hutchins presents The Six Q's, in vocal humour; Lowdini, genius in rags; Gilbin, ventriloquist; Frederic Culpitt, magical comedian; Bros. Leo, comedians; Bert Lytton, light comedy artist; Christopher and Columbus, laughter makers.

LEITH.

ALHAMBRA.—G. M., Mr. Henry Lees; A. M., Mr. James Cousins.—Under the title of "Mother Goose," Mr. Fred Collins presents an amusing all-Scotch pantomime entertainment, which is merrily acted by an excellent company.

Boots, The Chemists, 15, Leith Walk.

LEEK.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—P., The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; L. and G. M., Mr. Allan Milton; R. M., Mr. J. W. Malpass; Mus. D., Miss Agnes Bratt.—"The Sign Invisible," and other pictures of interest.

SALISBURY PALACE.—P., Mr. Sampson Salt; L. and G. M., Mr. Allan Milton; R. M., Mr. J. W. Malpass.—"Call of the Soul," "The Circus King," and other films.

Boots, The Chemists, 17, St. Edward-street, and Sheep Market-street.

LUTON.

PALACE.—D., Messrs. Lyons and Hart; G. M., Mr. Mark Lorne; Mus. D., Mr. Purvis.—The chief feature this week is the film, "Tarzan of the Apes," and on the variety side are Tom Bracewell and a lady partner in a novel entertainment, "Toy Soldiers"; the Lowell Brothers, in a trick balancing and comedy musician act; Violet Grey, musical comedy artist; Ragolio, the tramp rag painter; and George Perry, comedian and parody singer.

GRAND.—D., Mr. Graham Falcon; M., Mr. O'Sullivan.—The play "Billeted" is staged here this week, and played by the Taylor-Platt company, is enjoying deserved popularity.

Boots, The Chemists, 27, George-street.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—L., Mr. J. C. Imeson; Asst. M., Miss M. Morton; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Chidzey.—Mr. Nat Hepworth's pantomime, "Cinderella," which is here a second week, is attracting large audiences.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & P., Mr. J. C. Imeson; A. M., Mr. Cecil Imeson.—Mr. Fred Osmond's company are presenting here this week "The Curse of the Black Pearl" and "What Every Girl Can Do."

EMPIRE.—P., Empire Palace of Varieties (Middlesbrough), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. William Bastiman; A. M., Mr. Gerald Spencer; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Wilson.—A strong variety programme is headed by Poluski Brothers, in clever comicalities; The Milano Quartette, in delightful comedy and musical specialities; Delia Daly, character comedienne; Frances and Alfred, in a smart juggling display; Sam Hilton, "chippie chappie in chin'g"; Manuel and Francois, acrobatic eccentrics; and Nellie Nora, in a dainty instrumental speciality, are also here.

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. Thos. Thompson; A. M., Mr. W. S. Gibson; R. M., Mr. Frank N. Parker; Mus. D., Mr. H. J. Waldron.—Mozotto and Page give a clever display of comedy juggling here this week; pictures are also shown.

Boots, The Chemists, 17, Corporation-road.

NEATH.

PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Leon Vint; R. D., Mr. E. Gilley; Mus. D., Mr. Edgar Lewis.—Messrs. R. Nightingale, Ltd., present their latest successful pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

GNOLL HALL.—P., The Gnoll Picture and Variety Co., Ltd.; Sec., Mr. Glyn Gething; M., Mrs. L. Trueman; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. E. Hutchins.—The Staleys present their gorgeous transformation act; Dewson, with a piano, makes a hit; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 56, Wind-street.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL. — L., Messrs. Bostock and Fitt; M., Mr. Hy. Fernival.—Return visit of Percy Hutchison's company in "General Post."

HIPPODROME. — P., Messrs. Bostock and Fitt.—Varieties: Greenie—Leighton, Des Mantell, Hall and Menzies, Bonando and Francis, Lance and Nellie, Lauray and Walton, Golda Penville Quartette, Pathé's Pictures.

THATCHED PICTURE THEATRE. — P., Mr. J. O. Bond.—Varieties: John Montfort and Gwendolen May, Yoga.

THE MUSICK HOUSE. — Norwich Players present "The School for Scandal."

ELECTRIC CINEMA THEATRE. — P., F. H. Coopers & Co.; M., Mr. W. Smith.—Varieties: Nell Gow, Miss Rose Smith-Rose.

Boots, The Chemists, 38, London-street; Brigg-street; and 6, Goat-lane.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; G. M., Mr. Horace Lee; M. D., Mr. Charles Turner.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitcheison's company, in "The Thief and the Woman," and "Somebody's Wife."

BORO' THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Thompson and Collins; G. M., Mr. G. F. Hill; R. M., Mr. J. F. Heslop; M. D., Mr. Wm. Tennent.—George Ackroyd, flautist, and Noel Hardy, harpiste, in musical act; Les Gravettes, transformists; and pictures.

Boots The Chemists, 15-17, Saville-street.

OLDHAM.

GRAND.—P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. H. Kilrow.—Mr. Geo. Dance's company are paying a return visit in "Yes, Uncle." Tom Scott is capital as Brabazon Hollybone; Robert Relph acts cleverly as George Belamy Stark, the artist; and Leonard Neville as Bobby Summers is very good. Miss Rene Buckingham is a charming Lolita; and Misses Viola Williams, Theo Cotterill, and Phœbe Allen, Messrs. Frank Melroyd and Sidney Courtenay ably fill their respective parts.

PALACE.—P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. E. Sharrocks.—Penrose and Whitlock top the bill in their latest gramophone success. The Meteor Trio present a capital comedy flying act. Tommy Kelly and Florence Drake are a smart comedy duo. Scot Gibeon is an amusing comic. Ernie Ream has a good reception with his baby grand. Betty Bruce is excellent in character songs. Senor Angel Blanco contributes violin solos. The Palace Pictures conclude.

ROYAL.—P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. H. Harriss.—"Man to Man" is Mr. Denville's selection for this week, and is presented by a capital company, all the parts being well filled.

COLOSSEUM.—P., The Dobie Electric Theatre; G. M., Mr. W. Dobie.—Gyp appears in his latest successes; Jack Edwin, comedian; Gene Gordon, comedy magician; Dawn and Deriss, the musical dancers; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 40-42, Mumps; 28, Market-place.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—P., Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. & S., Mr. S. C. Dorrill; Asst. M., Mr. W. F. Smith; Mus. D., Mr. C. F. Trevor.—The Oxford University Dramatic Society are occupying the boards here with performances of Thomas Hardy's "The Dynasts." An abnormally long cast includes Miss Laura Cowie as Strophe, and the Hon. Mrs. Owen Buckmaster as Antistrophe.

Boots, The Chemists, 1, Queen-street, and 120, St. Aldates, Carfax.

PENTRE.

GRAND.—P. and M., Mr. W. E. Willis; Mus. D., Mr. Fred French.—Mr. Harry Gribbens presents his pantomime, "Aladdin."

PORT TALBOT.

NEW. — Joint L., Messrs. John Evans and Vivian Aldridge; G. M., Mr. Vivian Aldridge; M., Mrs. Vivian Aldridge.—Dan Whitely, Le Dair, the Girtons, and Margo Retta.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D. & L., Mr. James M. Glover; A. M., Mr. H. E. Jones; M. D., Mr. Wingate.—Mr. J. C. Malone and company in the new musical comedy, "Oh, Joy."

REPERTORY THEATRE.—P. & L., Mr. Geo. H. King and Mr. H. D. Parry.—The stock company present the farcical comedy, "The Night of the Party."

RAMSGATE.

PALACE.—Under direction of freeholder, Mrs. A. Reeve-Sanger; A. M., Mr. H. M. Harcourt; Mus. D., Mr. A. Williamson.—Mr. Frank Forbes-Robertson and Miss Joyce Corfield are appearing in a successful performance of "Mice and Men."

Boots, The Chemists, 20-24, Harbour-street.

READING.

COUNTY.—P. & M., Milton Bode and Edward Compton.—Macdonald and Young present "Betty."

PALACE.—A. Rossi's Elephants; Lily Carr, comedienne; Arthur Leslie, comedian and impersonator; George Dallon, entertainer at the piano; Little Dolly Varden, comedienne and speciality dancer; Kissa, the spirit of mirth; Jack Riskit; Betty and Assistant, comedy gymnasts.

Boots, The Chemists, 90-91, Broad-street; 2, Duke-street.

REDDITCH.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. W. Howgate; Mus. D., Mr. F. A. Head.—Mr. Arthur Hinton's company present "A Broken Doll" and on Friday "East Lynne."

Boots, The Chemists, 3, Evesham-street.

SALFORD.

PALACE (LATE REGENT THEATRE).—P., Mr. Wm. T. Hill; M. D., Mr. Alan Young; G. M., Mr. A. S. Evanson; Asst. M., Mr Horace Cocks.—Harry Burns presents "Making Movies."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. Hy. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Bernardo.—"Mother Goose" pantomime, presented by Venton Swift, the cast including Randolf Sutton.

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. and T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The second week of the brilliant musical comedy, "Who's Hooper?"

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. and T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—"Cinderella" continues to draw delighted audiences.

EMPIRE PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. R. Sidebotham.—A first-rate programme includes Coram, a clever entertainer, à la "Valentine Vox"; the Cowboy Minstrels; the Four Mackwells; James Stewart; Sisters O'Hara; Florence Yaymen, a smart comedienne; and R. A. Roberts, with his clever quick changes.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—R. M., Mr. H. C. Savage.—Bert Gilbert and company in the sketch "A Dark Light Horse"; Carlton and his "Gloomitites"; the Staig Youngsters; Vera Rooney; Melford and Dodd; pictures; and the favourite comedienne, Veronica Brady.

MONTGOMERY HALL, LTD.—Catley's Royal Pierrots, with catchy music, comedy sketches, &c. Two matinées weekly.

OXFORD PALACE.—R. M., Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—"Bella Donna," and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 55 and 57, Snig Hill; 252-54, West-street, and 2, Regent-street; 599, Attercliffe-road; 7, Netherthorpe-place; 97, South-street; 34, 36, Spittall-hill; 284, Shalesmoor; 183, Attercliffe-common; 760-2-4, Attercliffe-road; 440, Abbeydale-road; 207, Broomhall-street; 6, High-street; 2-4, Duke-street Park; 514-18, London-road. Heeley Bridge: 202, South-street, Moor; 652, Staniforth-road, Darnall; 129, Newbould-lane, Broomhill; 3-5, Middle-road, Hillsborough; 212, London-road.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Weston.—The musical play, "A Southern Maid," including Doreen Langton, who plays Dolores, and Lionel Victor as Todo.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. Will Murray; A. M., Mr. Harry Taylor.—Varieties by Hickly's Comedy Circus; Paul Roey's accordion ensemble; Clement May, Australian character actor; Dan Fraser, the popular Scot; Darty and partner; the Burke Trio, comedy skating speciality; and Rich Taylor, whistling ventriloquist.

HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Harry Yardley.—The company includes Daisy Dormer, the charming singer of popular melodies; Van Hoven, in his magical entertainment; Valazzi, juggler; Niblo and Doris; Gerrard, eccentric violinist; Alf Thomas; Felice Delia, vocalist; and Les Videos, skaters.

Boots, The Chemists, 84, High-street, Shirley; 97, East-street; 25, Above Bar; 103 St. Mary-street; 107, Shirley-road.; 29, London-road; 155, Bevois Hill.

STIRLING.

ALHAMBRA.—M. D., Mr. Fred Collins; R. M., Mr. Geo. Paulton; Mus. D., Mr. James Running.—Macdonald and Young's company in "Daddy Long-Legs."

OLYMPIA.—R. M., Mr. Jack M. Calder; Mus. D., Mr. W. F. Gillies.—The Four Kingstons; McDonald Troupe, dancers; J. B. Strain, Irish comedian; Tom Colly, Scotch comedian; George Campbell, juggler; Wanley, entertainer; the Four Cronies.

STOCKPORT.

ROYAL.—S. O. and M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. Cyril D. Revill; R. M. and S., Mr. John Revill.—Leon Vint presents "Three Weeks," Gladys Purnell appearing as Sonia and Herbert Mansfield as Paul.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. William Swire; G. M., Mr. Harry Barker.—Henry Carlton presents his pantomime "Blue Beard."

Boots, The Chemists, 26, Bridge-st., Brow.

TONYPANDY.

EMPIRE.—P., Mr. W. E. Willis and Son; R. M., Capt. Willie Willis; Mus. D., Mons. Jules Frascati.—Mr. Venton Swift presents his pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood."

Boots, The Chemists, 121a, Dunraven-st.

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and M. D., Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Messrs. Macdonald and Young present the American comedy success, "Uncle Sam," with a powerful cast. Mr. John Le Hay is a natural and convincing Henry Blook, and a clever character-study of Karl Pfeiffer is given by Mr. Edmund Kennedy, whilst Miss Henrietta Cavendish is well placed as Mrs. Pfeiffer.

PAVILION.—G. M. (for the Corporation), Mr. Chas. G. Price.—Considerable interest is being taken in the visit of Miss Phyllis Letts, the celebrated contralto, with a capable party.

Boots, The Chemists, 46-48, Fleet-street.

TYNEMOUTH.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Northland Film Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Charles Elderton; R. M., Mr. Bert Wilson; S. M., Mr. Oliver Turnbull; Mus. D., Mr. W. K. Moore.—Messrs. Herbert Ralland and MacGregor present the popular play, "Peg o' my Heart," with a strong cast.

WATFORD.

PALACE THEATRE.—M., Mr. Tom Taylor.—Arthur Rosebery and Gerald F. Buckle's company in the new romantic naval play, "The Silent Watch."

Boots, The Chemists, 115, High-street.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND.—S. L. and M., Mr. E. H. Bull; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Jackson.—Miss Phyllis Neilson Terry, supported by her London company, in a revival of "Trilby."

ROYAL.—P., Kimberley's, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; M., Mr. Edwin T. Kisbey; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Bradley.—Mr. John Millane's company in "Hushed Up" and "The Confessions of a Wife."

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Guy E. Dunning; Mus. D., Mr. B. Sorge.—The Six Brothers Luck in "Film Stars"; Foster Kershaw, entertainer; Rich and Galvin; Bowden, comedy acrobat; and Daisy James, comedienne.

Boots, The Chemists, 7-8, Queen-street; 82, Chapel Ash.

YORK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; A. M., Mr. Folleti Pennell.—Arthur Bourchier's company in "Scandal."

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock.—Symphonia, musical ensemble; Olivette, child mimic and dancer; George and Ethel Deldee, in character songs; Petro and Leon, comedy gymnasts; Fields and Doreen; MacGervey and Sealer, in Irish comedy scena; Hartley Wonders, comic jumping speciality; Frank Le Dent, juggler.

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The enterprise of Mr. Arthur Gibbons in setting the wheels of the motor-lorry rolling in the interests of theatrical touring, particulars of which are given elewhere, is highly to be commended. The way was shown, of course, during the recent railway strike, when wonderful things were accomplished in the matter of moving from place to place by road. The scheme was suggested some years ago, but was never found practicable, and it is fitting that the energetic secretary of the Touring Managers' Association should be the first to put the proposal into action.

It has been apparent for some time past that the conditions under which companies travelled were rapidly becoming hopeless, and there was no sign of relaxation of the rules on the part of the Government, who have treated the touring managers' representatives very shabbily. Not only have they increased exorbitantly the number at which a free truck can be had, but they have put up the rate from 3d. to 5d. a mile.

In spite of many letters to the Board asking for a deputation, no reply has been received except an acknowledgment of their receipt. It is time that managers began to take measures to make them independent of the railways, and Mr. Gibbons is to be congratulated upon becoming the pioneer of what should prove to be a more reliable, a more economic, and a more enjoyable method of touring.

The Touring Managers' Association.

The usual weekly meeting of the Committee was held yesterday at the Association's offices, 1 and 2, King Street, Covent Garden, under the chairmanship of Mr. Cecil Barth, when various matters of importance to touring managers were under discussion, notably the recently imposed charges for railway trucks.

The Association is having a very uphill fight in this matter. The Government, despite their written promise that trucks should be supplied free of charge for companies of 10 while they were in control of the railways, are proving obdurate. The T.M.A. is taking steps to have a question raised in Parliament on the matter. Members of the T.M.A. are again reminded that meetings are held every Tuesday at three o'clock, and the presence of those in town is particularly requested.

The Bishop's Bill.

The letter from the Provincial Managers' Association, which we printed in our last issue, and that of the Touring Managers' Association, which appears this week, show that the managerial bodies are not accepting lying down the position set up by determination of the Bishop of London to bring in a Bill in the House of Lords making it compulsory for all managers to be licensed. The matter has been taken out of the realm of economics into that of morals, and the impossibility of making a nation moral by Act of Parliament needs no emphasising.

The secretary of the Touring Managers' Association presents overwhelming evidence that the theatre of this country is the cleanest in the world, and that the safeguards for the people's morals are the most numerous. In these circumstances the Bishop's Bill would appear to be unnecessary.

The contention of the Provincial Association that if managers are to be licensed the same regulation should attach to actors has reason on its side. But undoubtedly the best plan would be to await the time when the profession is co-ordinated and its approaches barred to all who cannot furnish proper credentials. The word "licensing," and the odium which it reflects, would then be dispensed with.

The A.A. Council.

Scrutineers of the ballot for the new Council of the Actors' Association meet on Monday next for the purpose of counting the votes. Subsequently a Council meeting will be called, probably for the following Friday, when the scrutineers' report will be received, and the officers for 1920 elected.

Flight of a Favourite.

Just before the "Era" went to press, the actor-airman, Robert Loraine might have been observed high up in the sky en route for Switzerland, where he will spend his time in restful study. Just before Mr. Loraine went aboard his aeroplane he told us that one of the characters he will restudy while away is William of "Black-Eyed Susan" fame.

Douglas Jerrold's famous drama, by the way, has just been underlined by the Hamilton-Miln-Fairbairn management for revival in due course at the Surrey, where it was originally produced nearly ninety-one years ago. A wise managerial move this.

Bluffing Bluff King Hal.

Among the new plays which Messrs. Casson and Winston will present at the Holborn Empire matinées is one called "Henry, the Respectable," and deals with that much-married monarch, Bluff King Hal. Although the piece is but forty-five minutes long, it is in four acts, and treats learnedly, if larkishly, with Henry's first and second wives, the Reformation, of Wolsey, his wealth and woes, and several other cognate subjects!

"Converted Actors."

A Streatham newspaper, commenting upon the introduction of the cinema into a mission hall at Tooting, declares that these unique methods have been introduced because "the old-time missioners such as converted actors, burglars, and similar folk have had their day." Actors, we know, have been dubbed "rogues and vagabonds," but this is the first time we have seen them coupled with burglars. To what depths will not ignorance, cant and prejudice descend!

Henry Irving Anniversary.

The late Sir Henry Irving was born on Feb. 6, 1838. In commemoration of the event wreaths were placed on his tomb on Friday at Westminster Abbey and at the foot of his statue in Charing Cross-road.

Charles Hawtrey's Locum Tenens.

The widely-regretted illness of that great popular favourite, Charles Hawtrey, has brought back to the stage that excellent actor and valiant ex-officer, Louis Goodrich, who gained a commission and the O.B.E. for war service with the Artists Rifles. Mr. Goodrich, who is brother of Sir Abbott Anderson and Allan Aynesworth, is playing Hawtrey's part very cleverly in "Home and Beauty" at the Playhouse.

A "Club" Comedy.

Mr. Andre Charlot, who had selected this evening for the production of "Wild Geese" at the Comedy, has since chosen to-morrow (Thursday) evening for that purpose. This piece, which is written by Ronald Jeans and composed by Charles Cuvillier, shows a club for ladies only—all known as Wild Geese. Its production at Plymouth is reviewed on another page.

"La Tosca" Revival.

Rehearsals are already in progress of Miss Ethel Irving's coming production of "La Tosca." After a short provincial tour, starting at the Brighton Theatre Royal on March 1, the play will be produced at a West-End Theatre in the early spring. The version, in five acts, to be given by Miss Irving, is an entirely new one, prepared from the original script by Mr. Paul Berton, and the incidental music has been specially composed by Mr. Howard Carr.

The production will be on a magnificent scale, no expense being spared. Mr. Percy Macquoid is designing the dresses, also the new and elaborate scenery, which is being constructed by J. Brunskill and painted by Juan Sackman. Mr. Wilfred Eaton is producing, and the company, carefully selected by Miss Irving, includes Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw as Baron Scarpia, Mr. Vincent Clive as Marie Cavaradossi, and Miss Aimée de Burgh as the Queen of Naples, Miss Irving herself playing Floria Tosca.

The Censor Active.

The French Players have announced their next performance for Sunday, February 29, when the farcical comedy, "Le Bonheur Mesdames," by F. de Croisset, will be produced by George de Warfaz. It was originally intended to have a public performance on Monday, March 1, but owing to difficulties with the Censor, this performance will not take place.

Miss Gertrude Elliott's Tour.

Lady Forbes-Robertson starts her tour at Oxford on Monday. She has engaged a strong cast, including Frederic Worlock, H. Athol Forde, Alick Chumley, John Williams, Edgar Norfolk, Frank Denton, Maud Buchanan, Molly Hamley-Clifford, Nina Oldfield, and Barbara Gott. The company is going for a special six weeks' tour in the provinces, and it is hoped that at Easter a London theatre may be secured.

Stage Golfing Society.

Mr. Gerald du Maurier presided over the annual general meeting of the Stage Golfing Society at Wyndham's Theatre, London, on Saturday, when Mr. Oscar Asche was elected president in succession to Mr. du Maurier, who was appointed a vice-president, together with Mr. Walter Howard, Mr. Owen Nares, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. Robert Evett, Mr. Charles Hawtrey, and Mr. Huntley Wright. Mr. George Grossmith was re-elected captain, and Mr. Aubrey Smith was elected vice-captain. Mr. A. J. Evans and Mr. Ernest Graham were re-elected hon. treasurer and hon. secretary respectively.

It was decided that the Society should become affiliated to the Wimbledon Park Club, and Mr. Oscar Asche generously offered to pay the first entrance fee. Minor alterations were made in the rules. Additional competitions will be played during the year for cups presented by Mr. Oscar Asche, Mr. George Grossmith, and Mr. Gerald du Maurier.

The New Shakespeare Company.

The Governors of the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, have made arrangements with the Shakespeare Joint Committee for the Annual Birthday Festival to be undertaken by the New Shakespeare Company, under the direction of Mr. W. Bridges Adams. The Festival this year will extend to three weeks, commencing on Monday, April 19.

"Cymbeline" has been chosen for the birthday play, and "The Merchant of Venice" for the opening performance.

The Little Theatre Reopening.

Messrs. Vedrenne and Vernon hope to reopen the Little Theatre with Edward Knoblock's play, "Mumsee," on the 19th inst. The action passes in France, and most men who are familiar with the devastated area will recognise the setting of this intensely interesting story. The cast comprises Miss Eva Moore, Mr. H. O. Nicholson, Mr. Arthur Pusey, Mr. Henry Kendall, Miss Dorothy Lane, Miss Dorothy Tetley, Miss Edna Best, Miss Diana Hamilton, Mr. Dawson Milward, Mr. Cyril Raymond, Mr. Tarver Penna and Mr. George Carr.

The Municipal Theatre.

Under the auspices of the British Drama League a lecture on "The Municipal Theatre abroad—and at Home" will be delivered by Mr. W. H. Kerridge (sometime assistant conductor of the Municipal Theatre, Zurich, Switzerland) at the Passmore Edwards Settlement, Tavistock-place, on Sunday, Feb. 15, at 8.30 p.m. The chair will be taken by Miss Lilian Baylis, manageress of the Old Vic. Admission is free.

The League of Arts.

The League of Arts hopes to produce a number of plays during the forthcoming summer months. Mr. Patrick Kirwan, the well-known Shakespearean actor, has consented to conduct the dramatic classes which will be held in this connection.

Opera at Covent Garden.

The winter-spring season of grand opera in English will open at Covent Garden on Tuesday, Feb. 24. The repertoire will consist mainly of works by Mozart and Wagner, among the operas to be revived being "The Meistersinger," which has not been heard in English in London for over ten years.

The delayed production of the English opera, "A Village Romeo and Juliet," by Frederick Delius, will take place early in March. The company is practically the same as that which took part in the autumn season, with the addition of two or three newcomers. Other interesting particulars, Sir Thomas Beecham informs us, are embodied in a prospectus, which will be issued in the course of a few days.

The B.E.S.S. Prize Giving.

Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch will lecture on "Shakespeare, Yesterday and To-day," and Princess Marie Louise will distribute the annual elocution and essay prizes of the British Empire Shakespeare Society at the Haymarket Theatre—kindly lent by Mr. Frederick Harrison—on Monday afternoon, Feb. 16. Sir J. Forbes-Robertson will take the chair, and the other speakers will include Lord Howard de Walden, Sir Charles Wakefield, Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. Frederick Harrison, Mr. S. R. Littlewood, Mr. Acton Bond, Mr. G. E. MacLean and Mr. Henry Arthur Jones.

Touring Attractions.

Mr. E. Taylor Platt's "Billeted" company started its third year of tour at Buxton on Thursday, Mr. Farries Moss, Mr. Clarence Bigge, Mr. Edward Mervyn, Miss Enid Hawson, and Miss Renée Bevan playing the leading parts. Mr. Taylor Platt's "Nurse Benson" company opens at the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, on Monday. The leading parts will be played by Mr. George P. Poison, Mr. Eric Fane, Mr. Philip Fuller, Miss Mary Griffith, and Miss Maud Lindon.

"The Jeffersons'" Fourth.

That highly successful comedy, "The Jeffersons," commences its fourth tour on Feb. 23, with Mr. Wilfred E. Shine in his original part of Christopher Jefferson. The tour opens at Rawtenstall, and includes Blackpool, Preston, Liverpool, and Birmingham.

"Are You a Mason?"

"Are You a Mason?" will start its tour at the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, on June 14, and continue through the year. Newcastle, Nottingham, Brighton, Hull and Manchester will be included in the itinerary. New scenery has been built for this production, which will be under the direction of Chas. H. Williams.

"Jonathan Kippax."

The entire rights of a new play, by Major Herbert Woodgate, entitled "Jonathan Kippax," have been acquired by Mr. Arthur Gibbons, who will present it at the West Pier, Brighton, on March 15, with a view to bringing it eventually to London. The title-part—a strong man character—will be played by that powerful actor, Mr. Arnold Bell, straight from his triumphs in Australia, who will also produce. Major Woodgate, it may be recalled, was part author with Mr. George R. Sims of "The Ever Open Door," which had a run at the Aldwych in 1913.

Frank Dale.

When the musical version of "The New Boy" was produced at Wolverhampton, under the title of "Sonny Jim," our local correspondent expressed his admiration for the clever work contributed by Frank Dale in the leading part, and his praise was echoed by the local Press. This week the show is at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool, and after visiting the T.R., Nottingham, will be seen at Kingston and Penge.

Royal General Theatrical Fund.

The February meeting of the Board of Directors of the Royal General Theatrical Fund was held at Goschen Buildings, Henrietta-street, London, W.C., on Tuesday, the 3rd inst. The chair was occupied by Mr. Douglas Gordon (treasurer), and Messrs. Henry Doughty, Hubert Harben, Herbert B. Hays, Herbert Lyndon, Frank Weathersby, Hubert Willis, H. Saxe Wyndham, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary) were in attendance.

It was announced that Mr. Oscar Asche had agreed to preside at the 75th annual festival of the Fund, which will be held, according to present arrangements, some time in May next.

"Maid of the Mountains" Dinner.

The speakers at the O.P. Club "Maid of the Mountains" dinner at the Criterion next Sunday will include Miss Jose Collins, Lauri de Frece, Bertram Wallis and Robert Evett. The "Maid of the Mountains," it will be remembered, has broken the record run of the "Merry Widow" at the same theatre, which the O.P. Club celebrated some ten years ago.

Marchioness Townshend's New Play.

Mr. Eugene C. Stafford and Mr. Hubert Woodward will present on March 1 at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, prior to London production, the Marchioness Townshend's new play, entitled "The Fold." The cast will include Miss Hilda Trevelyan, Mme. Ratmirova, Mrs. A. B. Tapping, Mr. Frank Randell, Mr. Stanley Drewitt, Mr. Hubert Woodward, and Mr. Sydney Paxton.

Death of Mr. Amand Mascard.

On Sunday there died in a Glasgow nursing home Mr. Mascard, who has been resident manager of the Metropole Theatre for eight years past. A native of London, and connected with the profession all his life, he went to Glasgow sixteen years ago as acting manager of the Grand Theatre. Three years later he became manager of the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, when it first opened, and remained there till he returned to Glasgow as manager at the Metropole. Suffering from an internal complaint, he was operated upon on Wednesday, but did not rally.

"One Law for Both."

Mr. W. V. Garrod's first tour of the South Wales district with "One Law for Both" has proved a big success. So many dates have been offered by managers who have seen the play that a return to the district will be made later in the year. On Monday next, "One Law for Both" makes its Scotch début at the Metropole Theatre, Glasgow; it will be seen in the North again in July and the late autumn.

In Aid of Sisters of Mercy.

The Thé Dansant at the Hyde Park Hotel on Feb. 17, in aid of the various works of the Sisters of Mercy, promises to be one of the jolliest and smartest of the season. Lady Alexander is taking a great interest in it, and has promised to give a prize to the best dressed lady, who has designed her own costume.

TOURING BY MOTOR LORRY.

DOING WITHOUT THE RAILWAYS.

The credit of inaugurating what may well prove to be a revolution in theatrical travelling belongs to Mr. Arthur Gibbons, who is sending out a No. 2 company of "The Rotters," to travel by motor-lorry. The company will number, all told, including staff, twelve people, and will play one, two, and sometimes three-night stands.

Mr. Gibbons has taken advantage of the opportunities offered by the material now being disposed of by the military authorities, and has purchased, through an expert, a four-ton van, to carry eight people. It is properly, if not luxuriously, fitted up, and can be entirely covered in if necessary. He has also acquired a 20 h.p. Panhard box-van, 14ft. long, to carry scenery, furniture, and baggage, and to seat four people.

The chauffeurs will not mean an increase of staff, for Mr. Gibbons has engaged for the part of Percy a thoroughly experienced actor, who has been driving Army vans in Italy for four years, and is consequently competent to drive in hilly country. The other chauffeur will be the assistant carpenter, who has had similar experience in the Army.

Road and Rail Comparison.

Mr. Gibbons estimates that in the ordinary way the lorry charges in and out at anything between £3 a town. Railway fars, with the additional truck charges, he estimates at £18 a week. On top of that there are considerable tips to porters, &c.

By the new method the only cost is initial outlay on the cars, petrol, oil, and wear and tear. Mr. Gibbons estimates the whole cost will be under £450, and considers that a saving of £12 a week will be effected. Moreover, on arriving in a town where the company is to stay for more than two nights his advance agent will make it known that the two cars will be available to undertake contract work, which should realise a profit that would go a long way towards balancing the expenses.

Each car will have suitable lettering, which will have a large advertising value.

There is the additional advantage that instead of four loadings—namely, from rail to lorry and lorry to theatre—there are only two—a saving both of time and injury to the scenery, &c. It will also be a boon to members of the company. One of the difficulties of the railway travelling is that the station is usually a long way from the theatre, and the members of the company would be spared the necessity of engaging a cab to convey them to their lodgings, as the lorry would carry the whole of their personal luggage and set each one down at his or her own door.

Mr. Gibbons starts his experiment on Monday, March 1, and the result, it is safe to say, will be watched with the greatest interest.

EXCESSIVE TRUCK CHARGES.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Sir,—Might I take up a little of your space and ask if anything is being done with regard to this awful imposition, the truck charge, which is driving many a hard-working dramatic manager off the road? I have been fourteen years business manager, and I can honestly say that to the man with his company of ten, with the huge jumps and the small dates, it is a struggle to-day to keep going. And now to pay for the truck is making it worse. Is the man with his drama or comedy comedy of ten to be pitched upon to suffer alone? What about the revue man with his chorus that draws the big dates? Let him share the burden; let it be all pay, but all pay, say, 1d. a mile. It would still mean money to the railway, and it would mean that we should not suffer unfairly by only the small man paying 5d. a mile.

The profession is in a sad state. I know this by the number out of work. Last week I wanted three artists, and out of two adverts. I had 75 applicants, and all at pre-war terms. This means that the profession is suffering very severely. And the more managers go off the road, the worse it will become.—Yours faithfully,

D. LESLIE.

16, York-street, Paisley.
Feb. 2, 1920.

PANTOMIME FAREWELLS.

At the Pavilion, Torquay, on Saturday night, Mr. and Mrs. John Walters' pantomime, "Cinderella," ended a very successful tour, and the occasion was seized upon to make a number of interesting presentations. Each member of the company received a souvenir, whilst during the performance the principals—Miss Veronique Dalzace, whose bright and vivacious singing in the title-rôle made her many friends, and Mr. Chas. A. Falla, the inimitable and highly diverting Buttons—came in for many "bouquets," whilst Mr. Ernest M. Hargreaves, whose rich tenor voice was encored nightly, was not overlooked.

At the conclusion Miss Elsie Wallace, the principal boy, invited Mr. Albert Rigby, the musical director, to the stage, and presented him with a handsome walking-stick on behalf of the members of the company. Mr. Chas. G. Price, the entertainments manager of the Torquay Corporation, spoke in eulogistic terms of Mr. and Mrs. John Walters, for whom hearty cheers were given. Mr. Walters suitably acknowledged the compliment, and expressed the hope that the company might all meet again another year.

"Jack and the Beanstalk."

Mr. J. Bannister Howard's "Jack and the Beanstalk" company finished a most successful tour last week at the Theatre Royal, Ryde, where crowded houses attended all the week. Lady Jellicoe and family occupied a box at last Thursday's matinée, and much enjoyed the pantomime. On the Wednesday evening, after the performance, Mr. and Mrs. Bannister Howard entertained all the company to supper at their hotel. Dancing followed till the early hours of the morning, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

The Keighley Hippodrome.

The pantomime terminated its run here on Saturday night, when Manager Walshaw was able to announce that all previous records held by the theatre had been broken, an achievement upon which Mr. Harry Ray and his company were to be heartily congratulated. Bookings for the spring season include "Soldier Boy," "Maid of the Mountains," "The Boy," "Brewster's Millions," "The Lilac Domino," "Luck of the Navy," and "Daddy Longlegs," with occasional variety attractions.

PROPOSED LICENSING OF MANAGERS.

UNASSAILABLE ARGUMENTS AGAINST.

The Touring Managers' Association has addressed the following letter to the secretary of the London Council for the Promotion of Public Morality:—

Sir,—In view of the proposed Bill for the licensing of entertainment managers, the members of the Touring Managers' Association, controlling not less than 300 London and provincial theatrical companies, unanimously request your consideration of the following facts:—

(1) The proposed Bill, in consequence of being restricted to entertainment managers only, would cast an undeserved stigma on members of an honourable calling.

(2) Entertainment managers as a body have always endeavoured to foster wholesomeness in public amusements. As tangible proof of the success of their efforts in this direction we assert:—

(a) That in no other country of the world are entertainments presented in such a cleanly and public-spirited manner as in Great Britain.

(b) That considerable numbers of plays and other entertainments produced freely in other countries are, by the express orders of our entertainment managers, cleansed and revised of undesirable and possibly offensive matter, before being accepted for representation in this country.

(3) A Censor appointed by the Crown is already in existence, and all restrictions he has thought desirable to impose have been loyally supported and carried out by the entertainment managers.

Local safeguards are also provided by the existence of licensing magistrates and Watch Committees. These bodies have power to take summary action against any entertainment deemed by them to be harmful to the public welfare.

(4) The records of the foregoing authorities will show an extraordinary freedom from prosecutable offences being committed in this connection. A slight hint to the manager controlling the entertainment called into question is usually sufficient to cause the offence to be at once deleted or removed.

(5) Whilst strongly deploring the exceptional cases where the actions of certain minor managers have been proved to tend towards distress or immorality on the part of their women choristers, we emphatically assert:—

(a) That such cases are solely due to the passing phase of the general after-effects of the war.

(b) That the percentage of such cases compares favourably in their infrequency with other industries employing large numbers of women in these abnormal times.

(c) That as the present economic and semi-neurotic conditions of the country are rectified, so will the offences mentioned be automatically removed.

(6) With a view to expediting recovery to the normal, standard contracts between all the entertainment managers' associations and the Artists' and Employees' Union have been brought into existence for the purpose of ensuring a minimum wage and the betterment of conditions of employment generally. Also, an Industrial Council for the whole of the entertainments industry, as recommended by the Whitley Commission, is in process of formation. This body will be empowered to deal drastically with employers or employees who may not honourably fulfil their engagements towards each other, or their duties to the public at large.

In view of the foregoing, we respectfully submit that further official interference with our labours is uncalled for and unnecessary, and that to select entertainment managers only for compulsory licensing would be an act of retrogression and repression. In our opinion, such an Act, if passed, would prove impotent in the working of its suggested purpose. Its only practical effect would be to again pillory in the eyes of the nation a profession that has long and earnestly laboured to rid itself of the "Rogues and Vagabonds" label attached to it by ungenerous and narrow-minded legislation in the past.—Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR GIBBONS,
Hon. Sec.

1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden,
London, W.C. 2.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION MATTERS.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

FRIDAY'S COUNCIL MEETING.

Ballot Papers.

Members are reminded that all ballot papers should be returned by 12 noon on Monday, February 16. All papers received after that time will be disqualified. Members who have not received their ballot papers should apply at once to the secretary, ballot papers which have been returned to the Association marked "Gone away," or "Not known," already amounting to over 130. It is the duty of every member in full benefit to vote. To be in full benefit a member must have been elected for at least 6 months, and not be in arrears to the amount of 4s.

Total Membership.

The total number of members on the register is now over 6,000. Two hundred new members are wanted each week if we are to reach the total of 15,000 by the end of 1920. Every member should recruit at least one new member.

Death Levy.

So far there have been no deaths among our members in 1920, but many members still owe for the 16 deaths, which was the amount in 1919.

Protection Fund.

Many members still owe their protection fund levy, and should immediately pay all outstanding amounts, as otherwise they run a risk of falling out of benefit.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council was held on February 6, when there were present: Mr. Norman McKinnel (in the chair), Messrs. Henry Vibart, Alfred Goddard, F. J. Arlton, C. V. France, J. Fisher White, Henry Oscar, Murri Moncrieff; Misses Georgina Hamilton, Lisa Coleman, Lilian Braithwaite, Mrs. Saba Raleigh, and Mr. Alfred Lugg, Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Henry Vibart read the report of the Ways and Means Committee. The solicitor's report on various cases was read. The nominations report was read by Miss Lisa Coleman.

Elections.

The following were elected members:—Peggy Angus, Josephine Malone, Kitty Twinn, Frank Steward, Ruth Bayart, Wyn Norman, Inez O'Connor, Gordon James, W. F. Christie, E. J. McPherson, G. H. Nicholls, Dorothy Batley, J. H. Stewart, Rex Barrington, Doris Fane, Rose Cazalet, Cecil Bevan, Dolf Wheeler, Florence Wallace, Frank Woolfe, Ray Desmond, Peggie May, Elsie May, Peggy Stoyle, Norman Astridge, Edith Oliver, Leonard W. Halfpenny, Walter L. Rignold, Muriel Barnby, Harry C. Morton, T. Westropp Morgan, Nancy Pawley, George M. Marriott, Edith Finlay, Florence Marriott, Edith Archer, May Westlake, Nancy Bruce, Edward L. Maples, Nellie Cotter, Winifred Turner, Eileen Smith, Gwyn Earle, Miss E. W. Mann, Will Aynesworth.

THE A.A. AND THE FUTURE.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Sir,—Nobody but a confirmed pessimist could be other than pleased at the wonderful progress made by the Actors' Association during the first year of its existence as a trade's union. The good results mentioned by the chairman and others at the recent meeting have only been brought about by the unstinted efforts of the Council and the enthusiastic co-operation of the rank and file.

A lot yet remains to be accomplished before our profession reaches the place in the life of the people which it is worthy of occupying, and before actors and actresses shall receive, as a right, the scale of remuneration and standard of comfort to which they are entitled by reason of their ability and their work, to say nothing of their rights as citizens.

It is therefore incumbent upon every individual member of the Association to put forth his or her best endeavours during the next twelve months to ensure that our progress in the realisation of our ideals shall be greater during 1920 than it was during 1919.

Everyone can assist by securing new members, by making note of and reporting theatres where the accommodation is unsanitary, or in any way unsatisfactory; by having informal discussions with members of their own and other companies upon matters connected with conditions of work and pay in the profession which require improving. Make notes of these, and from time to time see that they are sent forward to the secretary, taking care to keep copies for future reference.

We have got to submit to the conditions of the Standard Touring Contract during the next fifteen months.

During that time let us see that we go carefully over all the ground and prepare a *real* charter, which shall settle, so far as is possible, all points in dispute for all time. There is nothing so unsettling as having to keep going forward for further concessions which have either been overlooked—or which fear of a rebuff prevented being demanded.

Personally—among other things—I believe in a straight demand being made for:

1. Payment for all rehearsals for everybody (graduated, if you like, according to salary).
2. Six performances to constitute a week.
3. Payment of 1/6th extra for each and every performance over six.
4. A really human minimum wage (with all due deference £3 weekly to-day—value £1 7s. or under in comparison with pre-war prices—does not strike me as being sufficient), never to be allowed to fall below £3 on a pre-war basis.

Finally, I would say to those outside the A.A.—"Get in"—or get out of the profession, unless you are manly enough publicly to refuse to benefit by any of the concessions won, or which may be won, by the A.A.—and even then, when we fully come to our senses, we will refuse to work with you—because you are not sporty.—Yours very truly,

HOWARD FORBES (A.A. 5694).

5, The Avenue, Egerton-street, New Brighton. Feb. 9, 1920.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Sir,—After reading the report of the A.A. meeting in your issue of to-day's date, I should be very much surprised if the A.A. get anything like 15,000 artists to join, if it is their intention to drag more amateurs into the profession.

Surely it is rather inconsistent to make these two statements at the same meeting: "For every part inquired for there were thousands and thousands of applicants," and "First of all, they would have to provide for the training of the embryo actor."

Most "pros" know that there are far too many amateurs in the business already. If the A.A. intend to encourage more, can they blame the managers if they do the same?

A stands for amateur as well as actor. For goodness' sake don't let it become the former.

I enclose my card and sign myself

PRE-WAR PRO.

Faversham, Feb. 4, 1920.

"Mr. Peter."

A comedy, entitled "Mr. Peter," by the joint authorship of Captain Bernard Merivale and Mr. Lechmere Worrall, will shortly be produced at the Liverpool Playhouse.

Mr. Charles Garry.

Mr. C. B. Cochran has released Mr Charles Garry in order that he may play a "starring" engagement as Svengali in "Trilby" with Miss Phyllis Neilson-Terry

THE REALM OF MUSIC.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.

THE ENOCH CONCERT.

Saturday's Enoch concert at Central Hall brought three sets of new songs to a hearing. As might be expected, Granville Bantock's "Vale of Arden" series are models of polished musicianship, besides being thoughtful and expressive settings of Alfred Hayes' charming lyrics. The emotional fervour of "The Bluebell Wood" and "The Fire Flame," and the poetry of "The White Queen" were fully conveyed by Mr. Walter Hyde, who was in fine voice. The favourite tenor also sang Percy Kahn's "Night of the East" and "Desert Bride," both appropriately glowing, and full of colour. It was a pity—for the composer—that Miss Madeline Collins had not learnt Francis G. Scott's "The Laverock" by heart before performing it in public. Her losing the place and breaking off in the middle of a very bright and tuneful song meant loss of interest and modified content for her hearers. Miss Collins sang the slow number—another of the "Three short songs"—with beautiful purity of tone. As always, it was a pleasure to listen to Miss Olga Haley, a serious artist if ever there was one. She adorns all she touches, and Easthope Martin owes her much for her singing of his "Four Dedications." Miss Olive Kavann, a pleasing contralto, sang some characteristic "Song Pictures," by May Brahe. The third, "To a Miniature," goes to an old-world dance measure that is very attractive. Mr. Kingsley Lark gave virile and vigorous renderings of Paul Edmunds' "Rimini" and Easthope Martin's "Songs of the Fair." In between the vocal items came solos by that master organist, Mr. J. A. Meale, clever violin-playing from Miss Katie Goldsmith, and pianoforte solos from Miss Chilton Griffin, who played McDowell's "Concert Study" with great dash and brilliance.

THE CENTRAL HALL.

It was a band night at Central Hall on Saturday; which means that the excellent musicians of H.M. Scots Guards provided the major part of the generous programme. Under the conductorship of their director, Lieut. F. W. Wood, they played some sixteen or seventeen pieces, ranging from Berlioz' "Carnival Romaine" to "The World's All Right, Keep Smiling," in which the cornet solo was finely performed by Sergt. H. R. Hamilton. One listens to Mr. Dan Jones with ever-increasing pleasure. His beautiful voice entitled him from his first appearance to a foremost place among tenors, a position which he is strengthening by his artistic method and the good taste of his readings. Miss Bessie Lang, whose light soprano is fresh and sweet, deserves compliments for her management of the agility passages in Sanderson's "Spring's Awakening," as well as for her clear enunciation. There were, also, recitals by Mr. Jack Mills, whose virile and picturesque personality lends itself well to the relating of such dramatic tales as Frank Desprez' "Lasca" and Milton Hayes' "Whitest Man I Know." And there was an amusing ventriloquial sketch by Mr. Arthur Brough, aided by a khaki-clad Tommy with a vocabulary rich in Army witticisms.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

Though hesitating further to advertise the facetious Mr. J. Swinburne, whose recent strictures on women's activities in the field of music have already brought him too much fame—of a sort—one cannot help wondering what he would have said if he had been present at the organ recital in the Duke's Hall the other day, of the quality of the feminine students' performances as compared with those of their Royal Academy brothers in art. Could he, with any sincerity, have re-asserted that "the whole art suffers from the idea that women are musical," and from their efforts to give the idea foundation? Seven organists, of whom two were ladies, took part in the programme, and any unprejudiced listener must surely have conceded to these two at least equal right to a hearing and equal merit with the masculine players. On some points, perhaps, Miss Florence Cook's playing of a Bach fugue might even be said to deserve the palm. To say this is not, of course, to disparage such work as that of Mr. Ronald Chamberlain in two movements from Rheinberger's G minor sonata, which also had its peculiar excellencies, or that, again, of Mr. Reginald Paul in Parry's Choral Prelude on the "Old 104th," but merely to give credit where credit is due. Those who come in contact at close quarters with the work of our educational institutions to-day know how great and increasing a part women are taking in every branch of music. Their detractors merely argue themselves ignorant and out-of-date. Agreeable singing by Miss Gladys Rolfe and Mr. Patrick Carphin—a promising tenor—among others, varied the organ items, and Miss Molly Halse showed dramatic perception in a recitation from "Coriolanus."

MISS EDITH GIBBS' STUDENTS' CONCERT.

A most successful concert was given by Miss Gibbs at Steinway Hall on Tuesday evening, the 3rd inst., in aid of Lady Beatty's scheme for maternity homes for seamen's wives. Miss Gibbs was fortunate enough to secure the services of Miss Jean Aylwin and Mr. Yorke Stephens, who appeared in Cosmo Gordon Lennox's delightfully droll duologue, "The Impertinence of the Creature," in which the fascinating raillery and vivacity of Miss Aylwin, and the persistent efforts of the celebrated explorer, as impersonated by Mr. Stephens, to make known his identity and assuage her hero-worship, were delightfully and effectively set forth. Miss Aylwin also obliged with recitations, delivered in her inimitable manner, full of arch roguery and expression, "Mon Ami" and "A Highland Story of a Pig." Mr. Yorke Stephens also appeared later in the evening, and recited, much to the delight of the audience.

Among the best of the other items were the vocalisation of Mr. William Misson, possessor of a pure cultivated tenor voice, in "O, Vision Entrancing," "Myrrha," and "Take a Pair of Sparkling Eyes"; the intensely dramatic rendering of "Che Faro," from Gluck's "Orfeon," by Miss Dorina Lacey; the exquisitely artistic 'cello playing of Mr. Cecil Godard; and the pretty, expressive singing of Miss May in a couple of rather uncommon songs, "Homing" and "Ships That Pass." Mr. H. Raynor Smith is a fine pianoforte player and excellent accompanist; Mrs. Kenneth Pearson's excellent soprano was well suited to her chosen song, "Chant Hindou"; and Mrs. Evan Morgan has some very sweet notes, and was heard to advantage in "Sweet Bird of Spring." Others who contributed successfully to the programme were Mr. Evan Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. Diprose, Mrs. Jackson, Miss Rita Cowan, Mrs. Walmsley, Miss Bessie Smith, and Mrs. Pollard. Mrs. Gordon and Miss Dorina Lacey also acted as most efficient accompanists.

The bulk of the artists were students of Miss Gibbs, whose artistic methods of teaching were reflected in the successful efforts of her pupils.

N.S.L. CONCERTS.

End of a Sabbatarian Fight.

Evening concerts were inaugurated on Sunday by the National Sunday League at East Ham Palace, and the success of the venture is assured if the attendance at the first concert is any criterion of the desire of the local public for these entertainments. The band of the 1st Royal Dragoon Guards was rapturously welcomed, and all the artists must have been highly gratified by their reception. The vocalists were Miss Annie Rees, Mr. Sidney Pointer, Miss Phyllis Evennett, and Mr. Edward Beaumont. Mr. David Beveridge gave recitals, whilst the brilliant violinist, Miss Olga Morselli, was in great "form."

During an interval Mr. T. F. Bryan, J.P., expressed the deep indebtedness of the Council of the League to the East Ham Council for giving permission for those concerts to be held. The ideas of the League, he said, were not in opposition to religion, but, on the contrary, were in support of the work of the churches.

The Mayor (Councillor G. P. Dean) said many kinds of narrow-mindedness had up to that time prevented the Council from allowing rational Sunday entertainments, but at long last they had won the fight by a narrow majority, and permission had been given the National Sunday League to run those concerts. Their object was for the general good of the people, and it was by the patient, slow, though persistent support of the public, who had backed them up nobly, that they had won in spite of all opposition.

Mr. R. T. Turner is the honorary manager for this branch of the League's concerts.

C.A.B.A.'S "AT HOME."

The seventh "At Home" (arranged by Mr. Alan Adair) was given on Sunday evening at St. George's Hall, Langham-place. Mr. Jeffrey Bernerd was announced to act as chairman, but a telegram was received from him expressing regret that he was unable to be present, and in his absence Mr. Eric Williams presided. Amongst the vocalists who gained special recognition was Mr. Gerald Adams, a tenor, who sang "Through All the Ages" in such excellent style that the audience insisted upon an encore. Mr. Laidlaw Murray, baritone, also gave a good rendering of "The Fair," and Mr. David Thomas scored with the well-known ballad, "Onaway, Awake, Beloved." The lady vocalists included Miss Mabel Tester, who sang "The Glory of the Sea"; Miss Greta Harrison; and Miss Winifred Lensh. Mr. Cornil Bard did well in songs at the piano, which were effectively rendered, but he made the mistake of staying too long. Miss Joan Meredith displayed ability in the delivery of "The Actor," by W. S. Gilbert; and also as a violinist. Curiously enough, another artist, Mr. Percy Merriman, had selected the same poem to recite, but first gave a powerfully dramatic rendering of "The Shooting of Dan McGrew," both contributions being received with well-deserved applause. Mr. Leslie Weston succeeded in amusing the audience with his topical ditty, "The Political Music Hall," and Mr. Charles Henry, another humorist, scored in song and story. Mr. Maurice Vince pleased with his imitations of the denizens of a farmyard and ventriloquial performance, with the assistance of the usual "boy." Miss Gladys Bishop proved to be a graceful and accomplished young dancer. She was greeted with much applause; as was also Douglas Phair, boy actor, who recited the "Night Watchman's Story" with good effect. Little Mabel Moss, child entertainer, met with success; and other names on the programme included Florence de Lisle, Evelyn Owen, Phyllis Croker, Mary Pitcairn, Dorrie Dene, Laurence Gray, Idina Lambley and Winifred Young, Walter Sempriere, the Bedford Singers, and Lloyd Shakespeare and Ernest Rutherford. During the interval the chairman made an appeal on behalf of the funds of the Association.

MR. ALVARO SANTOR.

Mme. May Walter has appointed Mr. Alvaro Santor to fill the position of musical director at the Prince of Wales Picture Playhouse, Westbourne Park. Born in the Azores, Mr. Santor was a member of the late King Carlos' State Orchestra. Prior to his new appointment he was well known in the Midlands. At the Prince of Wales's, the music there is a feature, particularly as the orchestra is assisted by a two-manual pedal organ, presided over by that clever organist, Mr. James E. Smith.

Academy of Music Awards.

The Josephine Troup Scholarship (composition) has been awarded to Désirée MacEwan. The Sainton Scholarship (violin) to Morgan Lloyd. The Charles Oldham Scholarship (violin) to Israel Schlaen; and the Gowland Harrison Scholarship (violin) to Paul Beard.

Ramsgate's Summer Season.

Ramsgate Corporation have accepted the offer of Mr. R. H. Lindo to provide a concert party for the season on the East Cliff, upon sharing terms of 66 per cent. Mr. Harry Gold is to supply the sands' concert party on the same terms.

SONGS AND SINGERS.

B. Feldman and Co.

Marjorie Fulton is introducing a new number at Chiswick this week. It is "My Hawaiian Bluebird," and a more pleasing and entirely suitable number has never been handled by this clever young performer.

"Pretty Peggy" proved a great success at the Prince's last week. The outstanding songs were "The Green Jade Maid," sung with excellent effect by Toots Pounds, and "The Tin Can Jazz," humorously handled by Lorna and Toots Pounds and company.

In Harry Burns' "Honeymoon Express" revue Blanche Baritrop makes a great hit in "That Wonderful Mother of Mine."

O'Gorman Brothers have a clever number in "Every Morn She Makes Me Late." The "Brothers" make it go all the way.

The Versatile Three are retained at the Palladium this week, and contribute "Give Me the Sultan's Harem," "Oh, What a Pal was Mary!" and that extremely popular new number, "Oo la la Wee Wee."

Alice Hayes, writing from Palace, Redditch, reports enormous success in "Till We Meet Again."

Rubani Trio, an accomplished musical act, feature "'Neath the Autumn Moon" in graceful style. The same trio will shortly introduce another charming ballad from the Feldman catalogue, viz., "For One Sweet Day."

Sisters Rockfort, in Leo Leon's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood," are making a tremendous success in "California and You."

Violet Trevenyon continues to attract a deal of hearty applause for an excellent rendering of "Mammy o' Mine."

Mareski, the Crazy Fiddler, who goes to France shortly with a budget of Feldman songs, is doing very well just now with "How Ya Gonna Keep 'Em Down on the Farm" and "Mammy o' Mine."

Star Music Co.

Miss Maud Hughes, fairy queen in Harry Burn's "Robinson Crusoe" panto. at the Empire, Gateshead, is singing "When Love Peeps in the Window," and creating a furore with same. "She of the top note" has been re-engaged for next year by Harry Burns, and after the run of the present pantomime will return to London halls and feature a new ballad by J. P. Long and Bennett Scott. Hilda Glyder is making a very big hit indeed with "Stop it, John," at the Palladium this week, and G. H. Elliott is delighting his hearers with "Where the Blue-eyed Marys Grow" at the Coliseum. At the Hippodrome, Woolwich, Isa Wise is the recipient of much applause for her rendering of "Why Did You Teach Me to Love You?" The Vivian Peake Ensemble are featuring with success "When Love Peeps in the Window" at the Empire, Birmingham.

At the Palace, Cheltenham, Reg. Wentworth is scoring with "I Must Get Married by Twelve O'clock To-night." "I Know Where the Flies Go" is a terrific success in the hands of Fred Curran at the Hippodrome, Willesden; Harry Bedford, at the Grand, Bolton; and Charles Whittle, at the Pavilion, Glasgow. The Michaeloff Trio have "Why Did You Teach Me to Love You?" in active rehearsal, and intend to make a special feature of the song at all their engagements. At the Empire, Kilburn, Jen Latona is making her usual success with "The Wedding in Fairyland," and Gertie Gitana is doing very big at the Empire, Edinburgh, with "You Made Me Happy for a While." Tom E. Finglass, who is back in town after his big success as Chocolate in Moreton and Heath's panto., "Mother Hubbard," at the Grand, Hull, informs us that "Down in Virginia" proved a wonderful number. "Tommy" will continue to feature the song at all his music hall engagements.

Herman Darewski Co.

"Indianola," as an instrumental piece, is a whirlwind success, being played by all the leading orchestras and bands throughout the country. It is a most delightful fox-trot, and many thousands of people have already danced to its inspiriting strains. Darewski's also publish a very fine song, wedded to this popular melody. Musical directors who have not yet sent for band parts of "Indianola" should lose no time in doing so.

Edie Veno, at Holborn Empire, and the Two Bobs, at Stratford Empire, are making "I Know Where the Flies Go (On a Cold and Frosty Morning)" their big number, and plaudits loud and long are the natural result, in each instance.

That delightful "duo," Dollie and Billie, who scored such a wonderful success at Wood Green Empire, last week with "The Rose of No Man's Land," have arranged to featur another big Darewski number, entitled "He Went in Like a Lion and Cam Out Like a Lamb."

Gipsy Woolf made a big success at Eastbourne last week, with Huntley Trevor and John Neat's fine syncopated number, "The Shiverin' Slide," which suits her to perfection.

One of the most popular of the many popular Darewski songs, just now, is that beautiful Oriental number, "Chong," which Odette Myrtil sings (and dances) in Andre Charlot's "Bran Pie." As an instrumental and dance piece, "Chong" is almost as popular as "Indianola."

Dainty Doris is making a very big feature in her delightful act of Irving Berlin's "Nobody Knows (and Nobody Seems to Care)," a new Darewski publication, which is destined to win much popularity ere long.

Daisy James has found a big new Darewski winner in the quaint and up-to-date number, "It's the Smart Little Feller That Stocked Up His Cellar."

Lawrence Wright Music Co.

Miss Marjorie Fulton, the dainty and popular comedienne at the Empire, Chiswick, this week, is featuring "Ev'ry Day You're Away Means a Teardrop" with very big success.

Miss Rosie Reys, a strong supporter of the Lawrence Wright numbers, has just produced two fresh songs, and is particularly successful with Horatio Nicholls' "How Can My Heart Forget?"

At the Tottenham Palace this week the Kitchen Comedy Four are delighting audiences. Miss Mabel Austin's rendering of the now popular "That Old-fashioned Mother of Mine" being keenly enjoyed.

Miss Hilda Glyder, at the Palladium, has just produced a new number from the catalogue of the Lawrence Wright Music Co., entitled "Keep 'em Guessing," which suits the popular artist to perfection.

Miss Constance Risden has also been fortunate in securing winners from the catalogue of this firm, and is at present making a big feature of "That Old-fashioned Mother of Mine" and "The Kingdom Within your Eyes."

Vivien Peake's artistic act, "The Fleeting Hour," is also well supplied with Lawrence Wright numbers, and at the Empire, Birmingham, this week, "The Kingdom Within Your Eyes," and a new number by Victor Ambrose, "Give Me the Open Road," are firm favourites.

Parker-Charles Music Publishing Co.,

Vocalists who sing "big" songs get big applause, and those who get big applause get increased times and a full date-book. In consequence of the insistent applause evoked by Florence Kendall's rendering of Dorothy Forster's "I Just Want You," the times allotted to this charming songstress have had to be increased at almost every variety theatre at which she has appeared.

Rowe Johns is featuring "A Last Request" and "King of the Clouds" with great success. At Gatti's last week, Sybil Elliott rendered Sidney C. Byers' "Love's Reverie" in perfect style. This song is being feature dat all Wynifred Meurice's engagements. Robert Mulvey is scoring everywhere with "The Sergeant Major" and "King of the Clouds." Edward Robins, a new tenor of outstanding merit, is singing "Someone's Singing in My Garden" and "The Island Delightful." J. W. Palmer's "Reflections" was featured by the composer with great success at Manor Park last week.

PORTMAN DANCE CLUB.

COSTERS' BALL AND FAIR.

The strident notes of the hurdy-gurdy, the blare of the mouth organ, and the persuasive strains of the jazz band competed fiercely for supremacy at the Portman Rooms last Thursday, when the Portman Dance Club held their Costers' Ball and Fair. There was all the fun of the fair — barrel-organs, ice-cream vendors, hot-potato men, and hawkers' stalls galore. Everybody enjoyed themselves immensely, and every one in the many-hued and picturesque throng of costers, hawkers, policemen, and even burglars, voted the evening a huge success.

Among those present were Lady Huntingdon, Mr. Willie Clarkson, Mr. Maurice Elvey, Mr. Jean Castener, Miss Betty Blake and Doctor Frank Brook. Miss Cartland made the most gracious of hostesses, and the genial secretary, M. René Racover, attired in the picturesque garb worn by Mr. Gerald Du Maurier in "London Pride," worked wtih untiring vigour to make the evening the success that it undoubtedly was.

VOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS.

The Portman Vocal, Dramatic and Dancing Academy offer two vocal scholarships, each tenable for two years, to:—A talented gentleman with good voice; and a talented lady with a good voice.

Examination will take place early in March next before a board of Royal Academicians, and the successful candidates will commence their studies immediately under an eminent professor of voice production and singing; they will be trained for either the operatic, concert or light opera stage.

"1812" Overture at a Cinema.

Crowded houses have been the rule at the Tower Cinema, Peckham. In addition to that popular film, "The Cheat," a most attractive and much-talked-of item in the programme is the musical rendering of the famous "1812" overture by the Tower Symphony Orchestra of 26 performers (including a grand organ), under the able direction of Mr. Albert Marchbank.

The literary examinations for the Goring Thomas, the Sterndale Bennett, the Thomas Threlfall, and the Thalberg scholarships will be held at the Royal Academy of Music on or about Thursday, April 15. The competitions, together with that of the Parepa-Rosa Scholarship, will take place on or about Monday, April 19. The last day for receiving entries is Wednesday, March 31.

TOURING CONCERT PARTIES.

NAME.	PROPRIETOR.	FEB. 9.	FEB. 16.	NEXT* VACANCY.
BREVITY	Richard Jerome	Assembly Rooms, Chester.	Anglesea Palace, Burton-on-Trent.	
CHUMS	Tom E. Roma	Lyric Th., Hull.	Leas Pavilion, Folkestone.	
GEMS, THE BRILLIANT	Ben Whitworth	Cinema, Bungay.	Empire, Stony Stratford.	
GUNNERS, THE	J. R. Turnbull	St. Julian's Th., Guernsey.	Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.	
OPTIMISTS	Will Catlin	Whitley Bay.	Whitley Bay.	
ROYAL SCARLETS	Geo. Christian	Exchange Th., Long Sutton.	Queen's Palace, Sutton-in-Ashfield.	
SUMMITS	Albert Lyon	A.H., Stafford.	.....	
WITS, THE	Richard Jerome	Town Hall, Sale.	Town Hall, Stretford.	

* The charge for inserting date of next Vacancy in this column is 1/- per insertion prepaid.

THE CONCERT WORLD.

ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC (Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1883). Prince Consort-road, South Kensington, S.W. Patron, His Majesty the King. President, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G. Director, Hugh P. Allen, Esq., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Secretary, George A. Macmillan, Esq., D.Litt.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms from CLAUDE AVELING, Registrar.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF Music (Inst. 1872). President: The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury. Chairman of Board: Sir Frederick Bridge, C.V.O., M.A., Mus.D. Director of Studies: C. W. Pearce, Mus.D. Director of Examinations: E. F. Horner, Mus.D. The College is open to students of all degrees of proficiency in Music, including beginners, who may enter at any time and for any number of subjects. All modern systems of Instrumental Technique and of Vocal Training are taught, also Elocution, &c. Particulars of the Teaching Department, Scholarship Regulations, and the Syllabuses of the Higher and Local Examinations, on application. C. N. H. Rodwell, *Secretary*, Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, London, W. 1.

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ALFRESCO ENTERTAINMENT.

PROMENADE, COLWYN BAY, NORTH WALES.

The Colwyn Bay and Colwyn Urban District Council invite Tenders for the privilege of
ALFRESCO ENTERTAINMENTS
on the Promenade (sea-front) for one year. Offers, to include the renting of WOODEN PAVILION, staging measuring 33ft.×9ft., and chairs provided on the site, should be sent to the undersigned not later than Wednesday, the 25th February, 1920.
JAMES AMPHLETT,
Council Offices, Clerk to the Council.
Colwyn Bay, Feb. 9, 1920.

BOROUGH OF MORECAMBE
TO ENTERTAINMENT CATERERS, ETC.
TO LET
FOR THE SEASON,
From Easter, 1920, to September 30 following, the Field or Pleasure Grounds at Bare, known as
HAPPY MOUNT.
Particulars and all information can be obtained from the Borough Accountant, Market Street, Morecambe, to whom all offers in writing should be addressed, and endorsed "Tender for Happy Mount," and sent in not later than the 24th February, 1920.
The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any offer.
T. P. TILLY, Town Clerk.

LONDON MUSICAL COMPETITION. Entries for the London Musical Festival, to be held at the Central Hall, Westminster, close on the 14th instant. The prizes will be distributed at the concerts on March 25, 27, and 29 by Sir Frederick Bridge, H.R.H. the Princess Mary, and the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of London respectively.

BURLINGTON QUARTETTE (Male Voice). Concerts, Masonic Banquets, Dinners, &c. EDWARD HAMILTON, "Redcot," Forster-rd., Beckenham.

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CONCERT PARTIES AND ENTERTAINERS' WANTS.

CONSTITUTIONAL THEATRE, LITTLEPORT, CAMBS.
WANTED, First-class Concert Parties, plenty comedy, variety; 3 nights each week. Wire, Feb. 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, onwards; good bns.; good companies. DAVIS & ROBERTS, Constitutional Theatre, Littleport, Cambs.

CONCERT PARTIES AND ENTERTAINERS WANTED.

WANTED, Concert Parties. East Coast (open air), 1920 season. Very good terms for real live artists. Partics. and terms to Box 279, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Concert Party for Easter, 1920 (ten days), April 1 to April 10 inclusive. Two Performances daily. First-class Concert Party only entertained. Send terms, &c., and where can be seen, to SUPER-SUPERB ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD., 79, Church-street, Blackpool.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BOURNEMOUTH.
Concert Parties on the Beach.

The Beach Committee are prepared to consider APPLICATIONS for the right to give CONCERT PERFORMANCES on the Beach at Bournemouth:—
(a) On the pitch near the Bournemouth Pier;
(b) On the West Beach Pitch.
Applications marked "Pier Pitch" or "West Beach Pitch," as the case may be, must be sent to the undersigned on or before 10 a.m., of Friday, 20th inst., of whom further particulars may be obtained as to terms of the agreement which will be required to be entered into by the persons whose tenders are accepted.
The two pitches will be dealt with separately, and persons desirous of tendering for the two must send in separate applications for each.
HERBERT ASHLING,
Municipal Offices, *Town Clerk.*
Bournemouth.
4th February, 1920,

PAIGNTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
PLEASURE GROUNDS.
The Council invite
APPLICATIONS
for the use of a portion of "THE GREEN," on the Sea Front (near the entrance to the Pier), as a
CONCERT PITCH
for Season 1920.
The successful applicant may provide a suitable stage, and may fence off an agreed portion of "The Green."
The Council are anxious that a first-class Concert Party should appear on "The Green" during the coming Season, and with this in view will not necessarily accept the highest offer which may be made.
Applications should state (a) the size of the Pitch required, (b) particulars of the erection proposed to be placed thereon, (c) rent offered, (d) give three references, and should reach me not later than Monday the 8th day of March, 1920.
JOHN HARTLEY,
Clerk to the Council.
Town Hall, PAIGNTON.

WARNING *Re* PARODIES

on the Famous Song,

THAT OLD-FASHIONED MOTHER OF MINE

(Just an Old-Fashioned Lady)

It has come to our notice that Comic Parodies on this song are being performed by certain artists.

NOTICE is hereby given that Legal Proceedings will be taken against the artists who sing such Parodies, and MANAGERS who allow same to be performed, unless written permission has been given by the publishers,

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NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1920.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies or changes which may be made in the calls.

BILL MATTER FOR MARCH 9 NOW DUE.

BARNEY ARMSTRONG CIRCUIT.

BELFAST.—Killybuck company.
DERRY.—"Peg o' My Heart" company.
DUBLIN.—"Aladdin" pantomime.
T.R., EDINBURGH.—Pantomime.

HARRY DAWN CIRCUIT.

EDMONTON EMPIRE.—Archie Pitt presents "Mr. Tower of London"; 16 band parts required. (Rehearsal, 4.)

RAYMOND Present Prestidigitateur.

MILE END EMPIRE.—Sharp's Tromboneers, Ted Saunders, Billy Housini and Co., and company as booked. (Rehearsal, 1.)

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.
(See page 23.)

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES.
(See page 17.)

MACNAGHTEN TOUR.

BLACKBURN.—Lowdini, Jerry and Co., James Hunter, Joe Dixon, Goff Godfrey, Harry Friskey, Gee Gee Chaplin.
Rehearsals at all halls at 12.
BRADFORD.—"Splashes."
BURNLEY.—R. A. Roberts, Ernie Whitmee, E. J. Huxter, Frank and Vesta, Arthur Astill, Harry Hemsley, Les Latour.
CARLISLE.—Four Storks, Pharos, Flo Dixie, George Calver, Willow Trio, Tom E. Finglass, Connie Browning.
HALIFAX.—Dalmere's Circus, May Edouin, Osborne and Perryer, Doc Campbell, W. H. Squire Trio, Alpho.

RAYMOND Pursuits Plentiful.

HUDDERSFIELD. — Billy Rogers, Taylor's Elephants, Violet Barti, Marcelle De Vere, Those Four Kids, Alex Mee and Co., Frank Sylvo.
SOUTHAMPTON.—"Bobo."
WARRINGTON.—Charles Mildare, The Mandos, Two Lillys, Jay Whidden, Chris Van Bern, Estelle Rose, Fayre Four.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD.
(See page 6.)

STOLL TOUR.
(See page 23.)

VARIETY THEATRES CONTROLLING CO., LTD.

BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Harry Day's "Stunts."
BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.—Robert Courtneidge's "Too Many Girls."
GLASGOW ALHAMBRA. — Wylie-Tate "Cinderella" (last week).
LEEDS HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—George Graves and Co., Marcelle and Partner, Amac and Assistant, Mareski, Graham and Cullen, Dario and Esme, The Three Staigs, in "The Globe of Life."
LIVERPOOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Geo. Shurley's "Hullo, America."
MANCHESTER PALACE. — Wylie-Tate "Aladdin" (last week).
MARGATE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2.30). — Chas. Cardow's "Maid of Malabar."
NEWCASTLE HIPPODROME. — Wylie-Tate "Cinderella" (last week).

RAYMOND Some Sorcerer.

PARIS ALHAMBRA.—Period commencing Feb. 13, 1920.—Clark's Cyclists, Lydia and Francis, Den and Mark, Paul Gordon, Maggie Clifton and Partner, Stella Magni and Partner, Little Oterasan, Demidoff Trio, Whiste and Whyse, Les Rubys, Yentoy Bros.
PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Hickey's Circus, Lew Lake's "The Far East."
PRESTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Waller and Bennett's "In the Night Watch."
SHEFFIELD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—De Biers, Juliette Dika, George Marten, Andre Charlot's "The Question," and company as booked.
SOUTHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.30).—A de Courville's "Keep 'Em Alive."
SOUTHEND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—H. Day's "Funbeams."
WOLVERHAMPTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Mafuziang Manchu Troupe, Ernie Ream, Wal Langtry, Gerrard, Teddy Stream, and company as booked.

LEON VINT CIRCUIT.

BARRY DOCK PALACE.—Talbot and Clare, Tom Idol.

RAYMOND Wittiest of Wizards.

LLANELLY PALACE.—"Tatters" Co.
NEATH PALACE.—Margo Retta, Dore and Dollar.

ALBANY WARD CIRCUIT.

Rehearsals at 1 o'clock except Weymouth, at 12.
CHEPSTOW PALACE.—Bourne and Lester, Ernie Moss.
FROME PALACE.—Carlton Fredricks Co., "Dick Whittington," Feb. 19, 20 and 21.
SALISBURY NEW THEATRE.—Carlton Fredricks Co., "Mother Goose."
SALISBURY PALACE.—Three Bros Huxter, Gladys Huxley, Phillips and Fayne, Bert Elliott.
WEYMOUTH JUBILEE HALL.—Little Miss Mary and Co., Bonelli, Mart and Pep, Harry O'Ming and Assistant, Brahham and Devier.
YEOVIL PALACE.—De Vola and Rex, Lorene and Kid.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.30).—Jack Marks' Co., "Honeymoon Island," Jenny La Monte.
ALDERSHOT, ALFRED BERT'S MILITARY HALLS (rehearsal, 2.30).—The Bradburys, La Zeflan, Teddy Berry and Lady, Magrini and Lady, Connie and Ethel, Maisie Dean, Gerald Meade, Dolly O'Dell, Bessie Maude, Harry Redwood, Willie Gunn, James Moore Bingham, Ashford, The Three Its, Polly Rush, Frank Fell, Fred Watts, Sisters La French.
ASTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Hiawatha and Squaw, Charley Meteor Trio, Fred Keeton, Ellis Drake and Co., Rosie Lloyd, The Dennisons.
AYR PAVILION (rehearsal, 1).—Lola Charm's "Dick Whittington" pantomime.
BATH PALACE THEATRE. — Maggie Mclean, Martini, Hughie Emeric, The Three Neslos, Dainty Iris, Lee and Hart.
CHELTENHAM HIPPODROME. — Diving Bells, W. V. Robinson, Fenner and Roberts, Ida Long, Vi and Viola, Walter O'Brian, Texas Duo.

RAYMOND Wonderful Wizard With Wit.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Leslie Stanelli and Edgar, Will Collinson and Co., Haig and Novel, Harold Owen, Wager, Melvin and Mayo, The Three Ernests.
FOLKESTONE PLAYHOUSE (rehearsal, 12).—Eddie Walker, The Churchills.
GLASGOW PAVILION.—Revue, "Buzz-Buzz."
GOOLE COLISEUM (rehearsal, 1).—Sid Cotterell and Co., Benedetti Bros., C. H. Charlton, Alec Fredson, Gordon Brown, Five Gold Flakes, and company as booked.
GUILDFORD ROYAL (rehearsal, 2).—Macdonald and Young present "Betty."
KINGSTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Archie Goodall, Vernon Watson, Cecil Lyle, James Fawn, Rubani Trio, Foster and Ninon, George Broff, Shakespeare and Rutherford, Dora Dare.
LONDON CANNING TOWN (rehearsal, 11.30).—Great Wieland, Celest, Decunas, Les Classiques, Maggie Rimmer, Harry Knox, and company as booked.
LONDON CANTERBURY.—The Velmas, "Partners Three," featuring Enid Bennett, Charles Denton, "Secret Service," Pathé Gazette, and other new pictures. Will artists please note that no variety agent has the sole bookings for this hall?
LONDON SHOREDITCH EMPIRE. — Will Lacey, F. Whitman, H. Orchard, The

RAYMOND world Wandering With Witty Wizardisms.

Gordons, Gunner Lewis, Manuel Vega, Maritza Sugtehar.
LONDON VICTORIA PALACE.—Little Tich, Tex McLeod, Maclaine, Bob Anderson and Pony, Renee and Godfrey, Mary Leighton, Pariss Trio, Marjorie Fulton, Charles Erard.
NORTHAMPTON NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Six Brothers Luck, "What Next?"
PENGE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Andre Charlot's "Tails Up."
READING PALACE THEATRE.—Lily Hammersley and Horace Hunter and Co., Chas. Elstree, Ed. J. Baisden, Pathé Gazette, Marie Denziloe, Maudie and Syd McLloyd, Marie Elliott, Van de Velde and Co.
RICHMOND HIPPODROME. — "Hobson's Choice."
ROTHERHITHE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—May Henderson, Jim Nolan, Nord and Dane, Jenkin Bros., Fred Holt, Rosie Gaston, Wilbur and Ross, Ester Webster, Fisher and Lea, Billie Val and Partner, Bioscope.
STIRLING ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 1).—Vine and Brewer, Andrews and Clarke, Phil Kauffman, La Belle Nello, the Four Colonial Girls, Day and Daly, Kitty Storrow, Elroy.
WALHAM GREEN GRANVILLE (rehearsal, 12).—George Dundas, Leah Victoria, Halma, Topsy Johnson, Witt and Stevens, Two Ascots, Tambo and Tambo, Two Gerrards.

Bob. Anderson and Polo Pony.

Bob. Anderson and his wonderful Polo Pony will be one of the attractions at the Victoria Palace next week.

Hal Bert.

On Saturday next Hal Bert will conclude his season in the pantomime at Leeds, where he has been playing title-role in "Tom, Tom, the Piper's Son" with great success. On Monday week he will resume his single act at Wood Green.

Dario and Marie Esme.

Dario, the well-known pianist and composer, and Miss Marie Esme, the popular young contralto, have opened on a long provincial tour, including the Variety Theatres Controlling Co. and Moss'. They will again be seen in London this summer at the Victoria Palace. Mr. Dario has composed a ballad, entitled "The Song of a Thousand Years," words by Violet Gillespie, which is meeting with great success everywhere. It is being sung with much expression by Miss Esme, who possesses a powerful and melodious contralto. This song will shortly be published by a well-known London company.

Symphonia's 3,000th Performance.

At the Palace, Cork, recently, that delightful musical ensemble, "Symphonia" (under the direction of Henry Corner), completed its 3,000th performance, and from its present bookings liiks like doubling this record within the next few years. In June next Mr. Corner is taking his company again to South Africa for another twelve weeks' season.

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"THE FAR EAST."

Musical Comedy Drama, in Eight Scenes; Book, Lyrics, and Production by Joe Peterman; Music by Joe Peterman and H. Sullivan Brooke, Additional Dialogue by Geo. M. Slater, Produced at Penge Empire on Feb. 9.

Fred Jones ..... Fred Hastings
Joe Brown ..... Joe Young
Colonel Faulkner .... Herbert Pearson
Major Durborough .. Fredk. Granger
Karl Hogstye .. D. Lewin Mannering
Jean Schweitzer..... William Lorrimer
Maharajah of Gulshinar
Frank S. Strickland
Rajah of Gulshinar..Maresco Marisina
P.C. Robinson ..... John Julian
Hans ..... H. Benning
Yogi .....Lionel B. Yaldwyn
Berlin ..... Albert E. Mann
Envoys ..... Elliott Rose
Mina ..... Nellie Hook
Jane ..... Maudie Mack
Nancy Faulkner ..... Alma Green

The plot concerns Fred Jones and Joe Brown, who we see in the first scene "demobbed," only to re-join at their colonel's wish, in order to help him restore to the Temple of Gulshinar its idol. Their adventures are many. Jean Schweitzer steals the idol at Bendon, with the aid of the colonel's daughter, and flies with it and her to Holland, followed by Fred and Joe, disguised as Berlin envoys, and later on to a "U boat"; they finally arrive in India, where the Germans are to present to the Maharajah of Gulshinar the idol, in order to curry favour with him for national reasons; but they present him with a false idol. Fred and Joe turn up in the "nick of time" with the rightful one, and, of course, all ends happily in the last scene, the Temple of Gulshinar.

Mr. Lew Lake is well served by a brilliant cast. Mr. Fred Hastings and Mr. Joe Young as Fred and Joe are indescribably funny throughout, and deserve much praise for their work. As Colonel Faulkner Mr. Herbert Pearzon acts with restraint and reserve, and Mr. Fredk. Granger is clever as Major Durborough, singing excellently "My Indian Star," "Garden of Happiness," "After the War," and "I Passed by Your Window" with 'cello obligato. He is also heard to advantage in the duet, "If There Hadn't Been a Garden of Eden" with Miss Alma Green, a delightful Nancy Faulkner, who also scores heavy in "Shying," "My Deutscher Boy," and "I'm Going to be Married," with some good work from the chorus in this latter number. The villainies of the German spies are well portrayed by Mr. D. Lewin Mannering and Mr. Wm. Lorrimer; and Mr. Frank S. Strickland and Mr. Maresco Marisina as the Indian potentates act cleverly. Miss Maudie Mack as Jane, Miss Nellie Hook as Mina, and Miss Jessie Clifton as dancer do the little they are called upon to do well; and Messrs. J. Julian, H. Benning, Lionel B. Yaldwyn (an impressive Yogi), and Albert E. Mann and Elliott Rose all achieve success in small parts. Scenery, dresses, and appointments alike are good, and a well-drilled chorus, who know how to sing, add to the attractiveness of the show.

MAGICIANS' CLUB DINNER.

PRESENTATION TO HARRY HOUDINI.

The conviviality and good-fellowship which always marks the Magicians' Club's functions was more than ever manifest at the Savoy Hotel on Sunday evening at the Welcome Home dinner to the president, Mr. Harry Houdini. The great moment of the evening came when Mr. Maurice F. Raymond, the chairman, amid much enthusiasm, presented Mr. and Mrs. Houdini with an address of welcome in a silver casket. Mr. Raymond, in a felicitous speech, referred in glowing terms to Mr. Houdini's researches in magical literature, and to his achievements in the cause of magic generally, and voiced the sentiment of those present when he said that the club had never possessed so distinguished or popular a president. Mr. David Devant also spoke in eulogistic terms of Mr. Houdini, whom he described as the "greatest showman on earth," referring also to Mr. Houdini's many successes as a cinema artist.

Mr. Houdini, in a happy and interesting speech of acknowledgment, said that England loves magic and mystery more than any other country in the world. The toast of "The Ladies" was proposed by Mr. Harry Day, who described the fair sex as the "greatest magicians of the lot," and Mrs. Goldston (wife of the hon. treasurer) gave a spirited little reply. In the entertainment which followed many mystifying "stunts" were performed by the members, including Mr. Chris. Van Bern, the dove-producing Mr. Lewis Davenport, Mr. Edward Victor, and Monsieur Clement, who did some marvellous things with a Japanese umbrella. Mrs. Will Goldston also added considerably to the gaiety of the evening with her merry and bright singing, and Mr. Houdini was induced to perform the remarkable "needle and thread trick."

Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. David Devant, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Prince, Mr. Charles Withers, Mr. Billy O'Connor, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Day, Mr. and Mrs. Will Bennett, Artemas, Lieut. J. M. Edwards, Mr. A. C. Bloxham, J.P., Mr. Harry Goodson, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Davenport, Mr. Chris. Van Bern, Mr. Edward Victor, Father Larway, Mr. Joe Hayman, Mr. G. W. Hunter, and, of course, Mr. Hon. Treasurer Will Goldston, and Mr. Hon. Secretary "Hermalin." During the dinner Mr. Rupert Winston's orchestra discoursed sweet music.

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PALLADIUM—*NOW*
NOTTINGHAM NEWS, 7-2-20:
"The best act in Nottingham Vaudeville this week, 'The Gladiators' at the Empire."
FOR DATES—
E. De VERE,
Sole Agent.

Miss LILY LENA who, after the second week of her American Tour, was taken ill with the 'Flu. She resumed her engagements last Monday at SHEA'S THEATRE, BUFFALO.

See page 6.

I WAS TOLD MY ACT DEPENDED ON SYMPATHY. IF IT REALLY DID, THE BOAT WOULD SAIL MONDAY.
DON'T "STALL" ME. E. J. MOORE BOOK ME!
VACANCIES—See WALTER BENTLEY.

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS.

IN MEMORIAM.

BELCHAM.—In fond remembrance of my dear husband, Henry Belcham, who passed peacefully away on Feb. 9, 1917. Connected with the staff of "The Era" for 35 years.—Edwina Belcham.

CLEMMENTS.—In ever loving memory of my dear husband, George Clemments, late Musical Director, Hengler's Circus, who died in Dublin, February 10, 1907.

PORTER.—In loving memory of our beloved mother (wife of Edward William Porter), who died Feb. 13, 1911. Also of our dearest sister, Gertrude Mary, who died Jan. 24, 1911, and of our beloved brother, Frederick Edward, who died at sea on Aug. 11, 1915.

The Dance Mad Fiddler.
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WILL EVANS
AS THE BARONESS, CINDERELLA
DRURY LANE THEATRE.
NINTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR.

A FEW PRESS OPINIONS.

"THE BEST THINGS IN THE PANTO."
"The best things in this year's Drury Lane—panto are the scenes between Mr. Will Evans and . . ."—"Times."
"CANNOT HELP BEING FUNNY."
"Mr. Will Evans and . . . cannot help being funny. Drury Lane never had a pair better matched, and surely it never had two comedians of so kindly a spirit."—"Daily Telegraph."
"AN EXCELLENT COMEDY STUDY."
"Mr. Will Evans' Baroness is really an excellent comedy study."—"Morning Post."
"IRRESISTIBLY FUNNY."
"We do not remember a more successful pantomime dame than Mr. Will Evans. His blend of dignity, sly humour, and singing, is irresistibly comic, and he not only repeats, but emphasises, his enormous success of last year."—"The Era."
"EXTREMELY GOOD PERFORMANCE."
"Mr. Will Evans is to be complimented upon an extremely good performance."—"Referee."
"TRUE SPIRIT OF PANTOMIME."
"One of the best performances of all is the Baroness of Will Evans. He never makes the character merely a knockabout comedian in woman's clothes. He is even gentle and refined at times; but so irresistibly funny all the way through, so droll to watch, and so absolutely in the picture,

[*Photo., Claude Harris.*

and imbued so greatly with the true spirit of pantomime, that you get fond of the old lady, the while you roar with laughter whenever she is on the stage. His scenes with . . . while laying a table cloth, buying a horse, and instructing him in his duties as a servant, are among the funniest scenes of this pantomime."—"Tatler."
"PLEASES ALL."
"Mr. Will Evans pleases all and offends none."—"Sportsman."
"EASILY TAKES THE PALM."
"Of the acting Mr. Will Evans easily takes the palm from the point of view of impersonation and stage illusion. Indeed, he has never been seen to greater advantage, and to bring, as he does, the finesse of comedy into the hurly-burly of pantomime without any sacrifice of mirth, is a fine achievement."—Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News."
"PLENTY OF LAUGHTER."
"There still remains plenty of laughter, especially in the person of Mr. Will Evans who, as the Baroness, figures as a dame—extraordinarily like Miss Ellen Terry—for the first time."—"Graphic."
"SIMPLY BEYOND PRAISE."
"Mr. Will Evans is simply beyond praise as the Baroness."—"Reynolds's."
"A WORK OF ART."
"Mr. Will Evans, as the Baroness, was a work of art in its way. The comedian made the character lovably feminine, and his humour, though broad, was never wanting in refinement."—"Daily Express."
"Mr. Will Evans makes quite a straight comedy study of the Baroness, and is consequently far more effective and legitimately amusing than he has been on previous occasions."—"National News."
"Will Evans is a real lady who never forgets the dignity due to her rank and station, and I am sure the good lady is puzzled why we all laugh at her, which we do consumedly." — "Sunday Evening Telegram."
"Another artist who adds several cubits to his stature in this programme is Will Evans. One would imagine that this comedian of downright methods and broad humour would not fit in well with the scheme of things. Yet the opposite is the fact. Will Evans plays the part of the well-born Baroness to the manner born, and, strange to say, he is none the less effective as a laughter-maker."—"News of the World."
"A SCREAMINGLY FUNNY STUDY."
"Mr. Will Evans is really droll in a clever and refined way that is quite captivating without being ever in the least wounding as the Baroness. He gives a screamingly funny study of a typical middle-class matron." — "Liverpool Courier."
"THE EMBODIMENT OF FUN."
"Mr. Will Evans, as the Baroness, was the embodiment of fun, and free from every vestige or semblance of coarseness. His gags were innumerable, but in perfect good taste and refinement."—"Sheffield Telegraph."
"REMARKABLE CHARACTER ACTING."
"The greatest and most pleasant surprise of an entertainment which all children will find it difficult to overpraise, is the remarkable character-acting of Mr. Will Evans as the Baroness Beauxchamps, as the stepmother is now called. We have all seen Mr. Evans do many laughter-provoking things, but his Baroness is that and ever so much more. It is a work of art, finished and perfected in every detail. His eighteenth-century jolly, broadly humorous, great lady is a joy from beginning to end. Freshly conceived and boldly carried out, always full of laughter, but never lacking a certain delicacy and charm, rare enough in this type of part. Whenever he is on the stage the whole theatre ripples with gaiety . . . but for me the most intriguing incident is the joyous success of Mr. Will Evans."—"The Ladies' Field."
"THE EMBODIMENT OF FUN."
"Mr. Will Evans as the Baroness Beauxchamps was the embodiment of fun. Not since the late Mr. Fred Emney appeared on Drury Lane stage has a male impersonation of an elderly dame been so mirth-provoking. Mr. Evans' impersonation is finer than ever Mr. Emney's was. His gags are innumerable, but they are one and all in good taste and refinement."—"Aberdeen Journal."

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YVONNE ARNAUD, TOM WALLS,
AVICE KELHAM, GEORGE GROSSMITH,
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DAISY ELLISTON. FRANK ATTREE.
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THE GLEESOM SINGERS
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FIRST NIGHTS OF THE WEEK.

The "Triangle" Wittily Treated—"Othello" with a Happy Ending—A Beautiful Mystic Play.

"TEA FOR THREE."

Comedy, by Roi Cooper Megrue, Produced at the Haymarket Theatre, Tuesday, Feb. 3.

The Wife ..... Fay Compton
The Friend ..... Stanley Logan
The Husband ..... A. E. Matthews
The Maid ..... Phyllis Stuckey
The Valet ..... Oswald Marshall

The problem of "the triangle," treated with deftness, wit and originality, is the theme of Mr. Cooper Megrue's comedy, "Tea for Three," which was produced at the Haymarket Theatre last Tuesday night, and met with instant favour.

There are in all but five characters in the play, two being small but effective parts for a maid and a valet. It speaks volumes for the dialogue that although only two people—the wife and her friend, an "agreeable rattle," who makes love to her unblushingly—take part in it, and they remain seated at a small table in a restaurant, yet we are kept interested and amused throughout. The third person of the trio is the husband, whom we know only by his Christian name of Carter. Carter is a dear, but terribly humdrum, and although Doris, his sweet and beautiful wife, loves him, she does want a little recreation which the friendship of Philip gives her. Carter is jealous, with a jealousy that Philip describes as "automatic, self-feeding, and with its own self-starter," and shows the "rattle" that his presence on Thursday afternoons to tea is not desired. Philip and Doris put their two heads together and concoct a plan to make Carter change his mind. The plan we never hear—the descent of the curtain stops the concoction so far as we are concerned, and we are in doubt right up to the end of the play as to how much of it is deliberate and how much "went agley." We think it was Doris's part that suffered most, for, to avert her husband's suspicions, she is led into many a wild and foolish fib. She tells Carter that she has lunched with "Ethel," and Carter discovers that she has had a tête-à-tête lunch with Philip. She informs her husband that a certain photograph of hers is missing because she has broken the frame, and Carter finds out that it is in the possession of the man he believes to be his rival. Doris goes to Philip's rooms—the conveniently arranged rooms of a gay bachelor—to recover the photograph, and is followed by Carter, who is awake at last to the danger of possessing a lovely wife and fascinating friend. The two men draw lots as to which shall end his own life within 24 hours. Philip loses and laughs, goading Carter with the words that now he *will* steal his wife from him. Carter has a miserable twenty hours keeping jealous watch over Doris. When they read in a specially printed copy of an evening paper that Philip has committed suicide, Doris, glimpsing the truth, turns on her husband, reproaching him bitterly for his want of faith. "Philip has never been a thief," she cries; "you are the thief—you have robbed me of my friend." Philip arrives at a critical moment with two hours still to the good, and, as we suppose he foresaw, he is greeted with effusion by husband and wife, implored to live indefinitely and to take tea with them not only on Thursdays but any other day in the week that he wishes as well.

Not only is the play delightfully acted, but it is full of smart sayings. It is easy enough for Miss Fay Compton to look lovely and be enchantingly sweet as the wife, but she puts more into the part than this, especially in the last act, where she has a chance for a display of pathos which she uses finely. Mr. A. E. Matthews, departing from his usual style, gets in some really admirable work as the dull husband, and Mr. Stanley Logan, in the exacting part of the cynical, blasé waster who talks incessantly, is so clever that he makes the character almost but not quite acceptable. Miss Phyllis Stuckey makes a pronounced success as a parlour-maid stricken with sudden grief, and an excellent bit of characterisation is provided by Mr. Oswald Marshall as a discreet valet-secretary.

"CARNIVAL."

Play, in three acts, adapted from the Italian by H. C. M. Hardinge and Matheson Lang, produced, for the first time in London, at the New Theatre on Thursday, Feb. 5.

Giuseppe ..... Horton Cooper
Lelio ..... Antony Holles
Nino ..... Ivy Pike
Camilla ..... Dorothy Fane
Tomasso ..... Edward Y. Rae
Clelia ..... Jane Rouira
The Porter ..... Donald R. Young
Count Andrea Scipione ..... Dennis Neilson-Terry
Silvio Steno ..... Matheson Lang
Simonetta ..... Hilda Bayley
Ottavia ..... Margaret Damer
Ettore ..... H. R. Hignett
Nella ..... Winifred Izard
Colia ..... Betty Belloc
Dionigi ..... Geo. Skillan
Grazzo ..... Alfred Brandon
Sandro ..... Walter Menpes
Cecco ..... Harold Bradly
Lucio ..... Geo. Morgan
The Call Boy ..... Freddie Piesley
A Stage Hand ..... Walter Plinge
A Doctor ..... Ernest Bodkin

An unusual touch of interest is added to last Thursday's production by the announcement that this week Mr. Matheson Lang intends to commence a series of matinées of "Othello." On one day of the week, therefore, this enterprising actor-manager will be in the unique position of appearing as the Moor in the afternoon, and in the evening bill as the Italian actor who all but plays the part in real life. The Italians have a particular liking for letting a play form the motif for a tragedy that is really happening in the lives of the actors. In "Carnival" the key-note is given before the play by Mr. Harold Bradly's excellent rendering of the prologue to "Pagliacci." Silvio Steno is a great Italian actor who declares in the first act that he considers that Shakespeare's psychology was wrong in "Othello." By the next evening he not only admits that "Shakespeare was right," but he almost puts his conviction into action by strangling his wife, who is portraying Desdemona in a public performance of the play. In the interim, Carnival has taken place and Simonetta, the rather foolish little wife, had been carried off her feet (only to regain them soon enough when she realised her position), by the very attractive young officer friend of her husband's, Count Andrea Scipione. Silvio, returning earlier than was expected, discovers his wife's absence, and when she returns, dressed in a daring Bacchante costume, that was originally intended as a surprise for him, she weakly lies about her adventure.

The last act, in the green-room of the theatre during the performance, is a most effective piece of theatrical stagecraft. Just before going on for the bed-chamber scene, Silvio discovers that it is Andrea who is the Cassio in the case. He staggers out into the wings in a half-demented state, and his overwrought condition is soon apparent when he substitutes, in the famous lines, Simonetta's name for Desdemona. The excitement is well worked up by the other members of the company, and when finally the curtain is rung down, Simonetta is carried on in a fainting condition. A quite naturally written happy note ends the play, however, when Simonetta tells the whole truth of the previous night's episode, and Silvio carries her off in his arms to his gondola.

"Carnival" should be one of Mr. Matheson Lang's most popular successes. It certainly gives him one of his best parts. His handling of Silvio is a fine, strong piece of work. His reticence made the last act quite a dramatic scene. As Simonetta Miss Hilda Bayley was at her best in the earlier scenes. The little touches of impetuosity and her staccato method of speaking her lines were quite effective indications of the lighter side of the character. Mr. Dennis Neilson-Terry made Count Andrea a fine romantic figure. The Iago of the play was Silvio's shrewish sister, Baroness Della Torre, who was played for all the part was worth by a very capable actress, Miss Margaret Damer. A very amusing little character-study of the Baron Della Torre was contributed by Mr. H. R. Hignett; and a clever piece of acting was given by Mr. Antony Holles, Simonetta's wastrel brother. One of Miss Italia Conti's students, Ivy Pike was altogether natural and delightful as Silvio's child; and some very effective acting was rendered by Miss Dorothy Fane.

Mr. Hugo Rumbold's costumes for the Carnival scene are beautiful enough to warrant a special word for themselves.

"PETER IBBETSON."

Play in Four Acts, by John N. Raphael. Presented at the Savoy Theatre, Friday, Feb. 6.

Peter Ibbetson ..... Basil Rathbone
Colonel Ibbetson ..... Gilbert Hare
Major Duquesnois .. William Burchill
Mr. Lintot ..... Leonard Calvert
Raphael Merrydew .. Stafford Dickens
Guy Mannering ..... Basil Roscoe
Crockett ..... Ernest Munro
A Bishop ..... Harry Collier
Charlie Plunket .... Fernley Bisshopp
Landlord of the Tete Noir Inn ..... Clifford Heatherley
A Chaplain ..... Cyril Sworder
Mary Duchess of Towers. ..... Constance Collier
Mrs. Deane ..... Jessie Bateman
Mrs. Glyn ..... Frances Wetherall
Madge Plunket ..... Madge Murray
Diana Vivash ..... Pauline Grey
Victorire ..... Gladys Dale
A Doctor ..... Leslie Norton
A Sister of Charity..Eva Quilford-Quin
1st Warder ..... Leonard Robson
2nd Warder ..... Ian Solney
Mme. Seraskier ..... Olive Noble
M. Pasquier de la Mariere .. Eric Lugg
Mme. Pasquier de la Mariere ..... Ethel Carrington
Gogo ..... Dennis Rivers
Mimsey Seraskier.. Madeline Robinson

Few plays have left a more abiding memory of something fine and beautiful than the late John N. Raphael's dramatic version of George Du Maurier's novel, "Peter Ibbetson," presented originally at His Majesty's Theatre in July, 1915, at a special matinée. Following a long and successful run in America, Miss Constance Collier, the original Duchess of Towers, produced it at the Savoy Theatre on Friday, the 6th inst. There is a lovely thought embedded in the play, an uplifting flight of the imagination that takes you for a time away from this workaday world, into the beautiful land of dreams. Apart from this, the period is the delicious mid-Victorian, with its entrancing flounces and fringes, frilled shirts and side-whiskers, its polkas and schottisches, and its glorious vitality. We see two splendid characters drawn with exquisite delicacy, and an arresting picture of an elderly-young man, a conceited, boastful, unutterable cad. The boy, Peter (he is little more than a boy), is idealistic, sensitive, chivalrous, loyal to the tender memories of his childhood, loyal even to his odious uncle, Colonel Ibbetson, who brought the boy from his adored Paris on the death of his parents to educate him in England. The Colonel is still a professed lady-killer and forcing his unwelcome attentions upon sweet Mrs. Deane. It is at her house we meet Peter first, hear him telling her of his early, happy life and see him meet, unrecognised, his old playfellow, Mimsey Seraskier, now Mary Duchess of Towers. Two years later they meet and know each other again at Passy, both called there by memories, after Peter has had a strange dream, visioned on the stage, in which Mary and he are real people mixing unseen among dear ghosts of the past. The dream has been common to both; they have, as Mary puts it in the Mimsey language, "dreamed true." Peter, on his return to London, learns from the lips of Mrs. Deane's mother, a garrulous old lady, that Colonel Ibbetson has vilely maligned his (Peter's) dead mother—has boasted falsely that Peter is his natural son. In his rage Peter strikes blindly at his uncle and kills him. Sparing us unnecessary details, Mr. Raphael takes us to the chaplain's room at Newgate, shortly before the hour of execution. Peter has elected to die rather than open his lips. At the last moment a reprieve comes, and with it a message of hope from the Duchess of Towers. He must become oblivious of his life's loneliness by "dreaming true." From utter despair Peter rises to happiness. Each night the dreams come, and with them Mary. For forty years he is accounted mad for discovering that "stone walls do not a prison make, nor iron bars a cage." In the last dream of all his spirit passes from the body and he joins the beloved shades with Mary, who has just passed over, to be with them for ever.

Miss Constance Collier's Mary is infinitely finer than we found it at the initial performance. She has idealised it, and has made it a beautiful, ennobling picture of a divine type of woman. Mr. Basil Rathbone, as Peter, is wonderfully good. The delicacy and sensitiveness of his work are worthy of the highest praise. A remarkably clever piece of acting is the Colonel Ibbetson of Mr. Gilbert Hare, admirable in every detail, and Miss Jessie Bateman is entirely sympathetic as Mrs. Deane. Well-deserved applause follows the delightful acting of Mr. William Burchill as dear old Major Duquesnois, and Miss Ethel Carrington is charming as Peter's young mother. Little Miss Madeline Robinson makes the dearest little Mimsey, and Master Denis Rivers is very good as Gogo.

"MICE AND MEN" ON TOUR.

Mr. B. Mainwaring Dunstan opened a tour, at the Victoria Theatre, Kettering, on the 5th inst., with Mr. Frank Forbes-Robertson and an excellent company in Madeleine Lucette-Ryley's romantic old-world comedy, entitled "Mice and Men." Mr. Frank Forbes-Robertson, who takes his uncle's part, plays the middle-aged doctrinaire wit inconspicuous success. He portrays each phase of the part with rare skill and adds great laurels to an already distinguished career. Mr. Reginald Dane who is making his first appearance after 4½ years' service with H.M. Forces, makes an ideal young lover. Miss Joyce Corfield delightfully portrays the rôle of Peggy. The reception of the play was most cordial.

Mr. B. Mainwaring Dunstan is sparing no expense in this production—the scenery has been specially painted and is an artistic triumph, and the dresses of the Georgian period are correct in every detail. The play is produced by Messrs. Lewis Casson and Bruce-Winston.

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WE, GEORGE L. CAMPBELL, Managing Director; WILLIAM H. WHEELER, COURTENAY STEVENS, Directors; trading as Leader & Co., Ltd., in consequence of the transfer of the business of the late E. W. Hemingway to a limited liability company. We intend to apply to the London County Council for a licence to carry on an Employment Agency for theatrical, variety, and concert artists, at No. 14, Royal Arcade, W., such agency to be known as Leader & Co., Ltd., Entertainment and Concert Agency.
All objections, and the grounds therefor, must be submitted in writing to the Clerk of the Council, County Hall, Spring-gardens, S.W. 1, within 14 days from the date of publication of this advertisement.

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WE, LEOPOLD VICTOR DAVIS and ALFRED THOMAS HOBMAN PARKER, intend to apply to the London County Council for a licence to carry on an Employment Agency for concert artists at No. 88, Newman-street, Oxford-street, London, W. 1, such agency to be known as the Whitehall Concert Direction. All objections, and the grounds therefor, must be submitted to the Clerk of the Council, County Hall, Spring-gardens, London, S.W. 1, within 14 days from the date of publication of this advertisement.

IRENE NORAH CHETWOOD KING (married John Robert Lamb in 1903), known as RENE KING (dancer).
WHEREABOUTS of this lady in or since 1907 or of Relative or Friend who could give particulars of her DEATH are wanted by the undersigned. In 1907 she was 23 years of age, and previously lived at Toxteth Park, Liverpool, and was daughter of Richard King, Doctor of Medicine.
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ACTORS' DAY FUND.

The Advisory Board of the above Fund give notice that a general meeting of subscribers will be held on the stage of the St. James' Theatre on Tuesday, Feb. 17, 1920, at 3 p.m. Mr. Henry Ainley will be in the chair. Subscribers to the last three collections will be entitled to vote.
HENRY AINLEY (Chairman Advisory Board).
W. G. FAY, Secretary.

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A few opinions from popular people.

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY, Grand Theatre, Hull.—"I have been intending for some time to send you a testimonial about your Grease Paints. I have given them a good trial now, and I think I can honestly say that they are superior even to the German, and that, alas! is saying a good deal. I compliment you heartily upon your achievement."

Mr. WILL EVANS, Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.—"I thank you for sample of your Grease Paints you sent, and I find it a very excellent preparation. I shall certainly continue to use it."

THE ERA

ESTABLISHED 1837.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1920.

SUPPRESSION OR TRANSMUTATION?

IT is to be regretted that when public opinion on any question has become enlightened and expanded, too much weight is attached to that minority who are first to feel the inevitable reaction that follows all attempts at progress. It was inevitable that the extreme suppression of the Reformation Period should immediately be followed by the expansion in the other direction that took place at the Restoration. Each period tried to restore the balance of national character to the normal.

The Swing of the Pendulum.

The strain on everyone during the past five years is telling now that the reaction has set in, and the result is that popular opinion swings rapidly first in one direction, then in another. "Let us have nothing but amusement—theatres, dances, cinemas." "Let us have no amusement: We must work hard and save money." Both these points of view are sound if taken reasonably.

One fact established by the war is that amusement and recreation are absolutely essential in modern civilised life, and the theatre has been granted State recognition if not State help in consequence. The next step is to gain popular recognition of its value as a factor in national education. It has been so recognised in every European country but our own, and at the moment the help of everyone interested in the question—both those who for the moment are opposed to theatrical performances and those who are convinced of their usefulness, is urgently needed.

The section of the Y.M.C.A., which, for the moment, are against it on the grounds of morality, cannot deny that the theatre was one of the strongest assets their society had in keeping up the moral standards of huge camps of soldiers, and the commanding officers of many regiments are well aware of the benefits to the men of the wholesome relaxation the garrison theatre provided.

Nothing is so good for any section of the community as a strenuous opposition from those who are convinced that they know how its deficiencies can be overcome. If the attitude of a large section of public opinion is hostile and attempts to use suppression as means of improvement, it will take another century to regain the confidence in its helpfulness inspired by the war. If, on the other hand, transmutation is tried, we can transform what is looked upon by the majority as a form of amusement into one of the greatest methods of artistic education that is at the disposal of any nation. To transform what is not so good into what is much better is the safest of all forms of progress.

The Theatre a National Asset.

The theatre is an open platform for the discussion of life from all points of view, but as it depends for its very livelihood on being able to appeal to large numbers of all sections of society, it never becomes the exponent of extreme views on any question. It is an axiom of theatrical management that suggestive plays are no friends of the box office, and plays written on subjects still in the land of conjecture are seen only in the theatre where the audience are outnumbered by the performers.

What the English stage needs most is the help of those who are opposed to it—the constructive assistance of an honest objection which is the energy from which all new things establish themselves. Obscurantism, the father of suppression and of all forms of negative thought, is not to be compared with transmutation, the mother of progress, whose children, like Prometheus, are carriers of the fire of the future.

THE FUTURE OF OUR CHILDREN.

HOSTELS A NECESSITY IN EVERY LARGE TOWN.

By ELLALINE TERRISS.

Ever since the great European war ended there has been considerable controversy as to the future of our race. We have been taught to believe that we cannot establish an A1 nation from C3 children. Ministers of the Crown, Members of Parliament, and men and women associated with the great Arts and Sciences have impressed this point upon us.

The same thing applies if we look to the future of the stage. We cannot expect to create an A1 stage when we have at our disposal, perhaps, only C3 children. This brings me to the subject of my article.

A Great Question.

One of the great questions confronting the profession at the present time is the care of the children of touring actors and actresses. Too little attention has been paid in the past to this tremendous problem. We have been too apathetic, too unmindful of child life in relation to the theatre; too neglectful. Many schemes have been propounded which, if carried into effect, would by now have gone a long way towards solving the problem. But we actresses and actors have procrastinated. One of the most wonderful things is the scheme upon which Mr. and Mrs. Austin are working. Mrs. Austin, by the way, as Constance Hyem, played my part in "The Cherry Girl" for a long time at the Vaudeville. To my mind—and I am sure every member of the profession will agree with me—the Actors' Orphanage, with which she and her husband are connected, is one of the most beautiful I have ever seen.

But while Mr. and Mrs. Austin are carrying on such a noble work, there is another problem which faces the profession as a whole. That is the future of the children of touring actors and actresses. It is their education, and particularly the environment in which they are brought up, that we consider.

Let me for a moment contemplate the position of an actress on tour with children. In the first place, if the children be infants, how is it possible for an actress carefully to attend to the requirements of the child? In the day time, an actress is able to look after the needs of her children, but what about the time when she is performing on the stage? This is the period which matters, for, generally speaking, an actress is performing in the evening.

Housing Difficulties.

It is obvious that an actress has, first of all, to obtain her livelihood. In the second place, she must secure adequate housing accommodation while on tour; but, owing to the shortage of this accommodation—and everyone knows there is a shortage—her difficulties with children are accentuated. And, though she may be able to obtain decent lodgings, it is sometimes impossible for her to get suitable attention for youngsters. The result is that the children, generally speaking, of course, have to accompany their mothers to the theatre, and, so to speak, hang about until the performance is over. If the children be infants, perhaps no great harm is done, for the mother could, without any great risk, place the child either in a basket or in a cot in the dressing-room or near the wings of the stage, and thus be able periodically to visit it. But if the child is growing up, and is at an impressionable age, when its character is moulded by the environment in which it moves, matters are different.

It is for these children particularly that I am anxious. And that is why I am inclined to the belief that hostels should be established on the outskirts of each large town, to which the children could be sent at a nominal charge during the time their parents are engaged at the theatre in the neighbourhood.

Every mother knows that it is a dreadful thing to keep young children away from their beds, say, after 8 o'clock in the evening; but alas! how often have we seen these youngsters play aimlessly about the back of the stage long after that hour, even until their parents have finished their performance!

One cannot blame the parents so much as the system which allows these children to be as they are. And that is why I am convinced in my own mind that something can be done to bring about a vast alteration in the condition of things.

Should be the Richest Profession.

It cannot be denied that we ought to be the richest profession in the world; but we are not. The time may come, perhaps, when we shall be so. And we can become the richest profession in the world and be able to look after our offspring in a manner suitable to the prestige of the profession, if actors and actresses will see to it that these hostels are established, where their children can be educated and cared for when necessity arises. It may be asked how is it possible to accomplish this aim. My view is that it can be achieved by those actors and actresses who are accustomed to appear in charitable performances. In this way. If they would charge a nominal fee, say £1, for their services at these charity shows—unless the shows are for the benefit of soldiers, ex-soldiers, or hospitals—quite a large amount of money could be raised. It is estimated that there are about 40,000 members of the profession—the stage and the music hall—and a uniform fee would raise quite a respectable sum each year which could be devoted towards the upkeep of these hostels, and thus expended for the benefit of the children of the stage.

MISS ELLALINE TERRISS.

A Duty.

It does not matter whether the performers played Hamlet, or were men who carried the torches, they could give their fee to charity, for it is a charity to look after such children; and yet it is not a charity—it is a duty.

Charge for Autographs.

There are many ways in which they can do this besides acting on the stage. They can refuse to give their autographs without a charge being made for them, the money being given to a fund for the establishment of the hostels. Then in every theatre there are "deadheads" who get seats on the cheap, or, rather, do not pay for them—and some of them have no more right to claim a seat than I have to go into a butcher's shop and take a leg of mutton. If a nominal charge of sixpence or a shilling were made upon them, and the money given by the management to the hostel funds, a considerable amount could be realised.

The future of the children of the Profession is at stake, and it is incumbent upon every one of us to do our utmost to see that no step is left untaken to see that they are properly cared for so that they may become the A1 children that are necessary if the future of our country and of our stage is to be assured.

THE PLAY IN PARIS.

Successful Comedy at Mathurins—Cloudy Work at the Œuvre—New Pantomime by Russian Ballet.

(FROM "THE ERA" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Sunday.—M. Sacha Guitry, actor-author, is likewise director of the Theatre des Mathurins, and he presented on Thursday "La Danseuse Eperdue," by René Fauchois, an excellent three-act comedy. Vamoula, a dancer at the opera, is visited by an electrician named Edmond, who calls to repair an alleged fault in the lighting. He makes slow progress, and it is soon evident that he is not a real workman, but is madly in love with the ballet dancer, and has assumed this disguise to be near the lady. When Vamoula learns the truth and realises his ardent admiration, she takes pity on the timid but enterprising Edmond. Later a necklace is missing, and the police suspect the pseudo-electrician. He is arrested, and when a search is made at his home a quantity of other jewelry is found. However, all is explained. Edmond is a dealer in precious stones and innocent of the robbery, the necklace having been appropriated by Vamoula's degenerate father. Why the comedy is named "The Frenzied Dancer" I hardly know, but in any event it is a success.

"La Couronne de Carton."

The Theatre de l'Œuvre produced on Friday a problematic play by a new author, Jean Sarment, which he has entitled "The Cardboard Crown." The author is only 2[illegible] years of age, so he has our indulgence. The piece is certainly a juvenile effort, and many present did not realise in the least what were the author's intentions.

A young Prince, during his student days loves an actress, who does not reciprocate his feelings, not believing in his sincerity. He is called home suddenly to reign. Some years after he learns this same actress is performing in his capital, and he has her invited to the palace. Before her he acts

THE DRAMA IN AMERICA.

The "Ruined" Lady—Gilbert and Sullivan Revival—Otis Skinner's Return—Little Theatre Reopening.

(FROM "THE ERA" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Jan. 24. — Grace George easily upholds her popularity in a new comedy by Frances Nordstrom, recently produced at the Playhouse. It is entitled "The 'Ruined' Lady," and is full of witty remarks and diverting incidents. Ann Mortimer (Miss George) has been engaged to Bill Bruce for a dozen years, and the love affair has dawdled along until it has become a matter-of-fact friendship, Ann having become "good old Ann" to Bill instead of his sweetheart. She has managed his home as well as her own, and he has been so comfortable that the idea of making any change does not occur to him. He loves Ann, but he is satisfied to know that she is his, and is in no hurry to marry her. So Ann and her chum decide that in order to rouse him from his complacency, Ann must be "compromised" by him. With this in view she goes to Bill's house on a stormy night, intending to be discovered there. The plan fails to work out as she intended, and there are the usual misunderstandings, but Bill gradually wakes up, and finally proposes.

"Ruddigore."

Gilbert and Sullivan's opera has been revived with great success by the Society of American Singers at the Park Theatre. It is more than thirty years since the opera was performed in this city, and the revival has been made the subject of lengthy newspaper notices. Cora Tracy has done nothing better than her Mad Margaret, and Frank Moulan is capital as the simple-minded Robin Oakdale; while William Danforth, Gladys Caldwell Craig Campbell, and Bertram Peacock contribute to the success of the performance.

"Pietro."

This play, written by his wife, Mrs. Maud Skinner, and Jules Eckert Goodman, brings back Otis Skinner to Broadway. He is appearing at the Criterion Theatre in the rôle of a wealthy man, who has brought up his daughter in ignorance of an early scandal in his life—his trial for the murder of her mother when the girl was a baby. This incident is dealt with in the prologue, when his name is Pietro Barbano. He is innocent, and is acquitted, although the circumstantial evidence is strong. In the first act eighteen years later, he is known as Peter Barban. The erring wife, who is supposed to have been killed, turns up at a time when Peter already has trouble enough, for his daughter is in love with the son of the man who did his best to convict the poor Italian emigrant of a crime he had not committed. When Angela, the daughter, learns what manner of woman her mother was, she tells her lover to go; but, as is the habit of lovers, he stays. She is crushed to think that she is of the same clay as her mother, and it is her father's task to reassure her. There are several strong scenes in the play, and Mr. Skinner's Pietro is an interesting and clever characterisation.

"Mamma's Affair."

The Little Theatre, reconstructed and enlarged, was reopened on the 19th inst. under the management of Oliver Morosco, who produced this brilliant comedy by Rachel Barton Butler, and made a auspicious beginning. Miss Butler won the prize offered by Mr. Morosco to the students of Harvard for the best play from their pens, and the production of her comedy is part of her reward. The scene are laid among the hills of Massachusetts and the central characters are two mothers. One has a daughter, the other a son. The young people are engaged, and the mothers, one a hypochondriac, the other much the same in a different way, are bent on a marriage between their children, who are totally unsuited to each other. It is the family physician who sees that the proposed match is all wrong, also perceiving that instead of Mamma it is the daughter that needs his care, her nerves being unstrung as the result of her loveless engagement. Beginning with a purely professional interest in the girl, he ends by falling in love with her.

the comedy, pretends he is a tyrannical king, degrades his minister, calls out the troops for fatigue duty, and when he dines with the actress wears a crown he acquired when a youth from an Italian opera troupe. No one dares to smile. He insults an actor with whom this girl he now courts again has been performing. This man fires a pistol at the king but is nobly pardoned. Whereupon the actress throws her arms round the royal neck, declaring it is he she loves. But the King sends her away also, brutally explaining it is too late, as this time he is only pretending.

"Chant du Rossignol."

The Russian Ballets have terminated at the Opera, and the short season can be recorded as highly successful—almost as great as that of Anna Pavlova at the Theatre des Champs Elysées. Before leaving, Diaghilev and his troupe mounted a new work by Igor Stravinsky (pupil of Rimsky Korsakow). "The Song of the Nightingale" is a curious production, taken from Andersen's fairy tales, describing the malady of a Chinese emperor whose life was saved by the beautiful singing of the bird. Tamar Karsavina, Idzikowsky, and the company dance amidst a sort of new art setting, with strange music.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

Current musings:—"See what a rent." (Worried house hunter, *alias* Mark Antony.)

* * *

"Nought's had, all's spent." (Worried housekeeper, *alias* Lady Macbeth.)

* * *

"I would fain die a dry death." ("Pussyfoot" Johnson, *alias* Gonzalo.)

* * *

All of which proves that nothing in this world is new—every experience has already been a Shakesperience.

* * *

Great Scott! What next? Nights of Gladness? Certainly not! This is not a story. Merely the titles of four revues now running.

* * *

Talking of which, there *may* be nothing in a name, but I've known more than one actress pleased to get a title.

* * *

"You can't beat Gilbert," exclaims a critic. Nor can Time sully-van.

* * *

He thought he was a playwright,
But fame he always missed,
And the critics of to-day write
Him down a dramat-hissed!

* * *

Anxious voice over the telephone: "Hullo! That the Haymarket? Have you 'tea' for six?"

* * *

Yes, it is quite true that the end of "The Admirable Crichton" has been altered. But there is no intention to revise "Othello" and turn it into a comedy.

* * *

Apropos of endings, the Germans were not alone in their ambitions. The theatrical profession also reckons on der "Tag."

TOUCHSTONE.

WHAT'S ON IN TOWN.

ADELPHI (Strand, W.C.).—"Who's Hooper?" 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 2645.
ALDWYCH (Strand, W.C.).—"Pygmalion," 8.15. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 2315. Central 7170.
ALHAMBRA (Leicester-sq., W.C.). —"Medorah," 8. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 5064-5. Reg. 2522.
AMBASSADORS (Cambridge Circus, W.C.).—"Three Wise Fools," 8.30. Tues., Fri., Sat., 2.45. Gerr. 4460.
APOLLO (Shaftesbury-avenue, W.).—"Tilly of Bloomsbury," 8. Tues., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3243.
COURT (Sloane-sq., S.W.).—"Merchant of Venice," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 848.
COVENT GARDEN (Covent Garden, W.C.).—"The Only Way," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 640-641.
CRITERION (Coventry-st.). — "Lord Richard in the Pantry," 8.30. Tues., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3844.
DALY'S (Leicester-sq.).—"The Maid of the Mountains," 8. Tues., Sat., 2. Gerr. 202.
DRURY LANE (Drury-lane, W.C.).—"Cinderella," 1.30 and 7.30. Gerr. 2588.
DUKE OF YORK'S (St. Martin's-lane, W.C.).—"Sylvia's Lovers," 8.15. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 314.
EMPIRE (Leicester-sq.).—"The Red Mill," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3527.
GAIETY (Strand, W.C.).—"The Kiss Call," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 2780.
GARRICK (St. Martin's-lane, W.C.).—"Mr. Pim Passes By," 8.15. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 9613.
GLOBE (Shaftesbury-av.).—"The Voice from the Minaret," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 8722.
HAYMARKET (Haymarket, S.W. 1).—"Tea for Three," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Reg. 6030.
HIS MAJESTY'S (Haymarket, S.W. 1).—"Chu Chin Chow," 8. Mon., Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 1777.
KINGSWAY (Gt. Queen-st., W.C. 2).—"In the Night," 8.30. Mon., Tues., Fri., 2.30. Gerr. 4032.
LONDON PAVILION (Piccadilly-circus, W.).—"Afgar," 8.20. Tues., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 704-5.
LYCEUM (Wellington-st., W.C.).—"Dick Whittington," 2 and 7. Gerr. 7617.
LYRIC (Shaftesbury-avenue, W.).—"The Bird of Paradise," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3687.
NEW (St. Martin's-lane).—"Carnival," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. "Othello," Wed., 2.
OXFORD.—"The Eclipse," 8.15. Thurs., Sat., 2.30.
PALACE (Shaftesbury-avenue). — "The Whirligig," 8.15. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 6834.
PLAYHOUSE (Charing Cross, W.C.).—"Home and Beauty," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3970.
PRINCE OF WALES (Coventry-st., W.).—"Bran Pie," 8. Wed., Fri., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 7482.
PRINCES (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Pretty Peggy," 8. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3, 00-1.
QUEEN'S (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Mr. Todd's Experiment," 8.15. Thurs. Sat., 2.30.
ROYALTY (Dean-street, W.).—"The Admirable Crichton," 8.15. Thurs., Sat., 2.30.
ST. JAMES'S (King-street, S.W.).—"Julius Cæsar," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 3903.
ST. MARTIN'S (West-street, W.C. 2).—"Just Like Judy," 8.30. Tues., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 1243.
SAVOY (Strand, W.C.).—"Peter Ibbetson," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3366-7.
SCALA (Tottenham Court-rd.).—"When Knights Were Bold," 8. Thurs., Sat., 2. Museum 6010-11.
SHAFTESBURY (Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C.).—"Baby Bunting," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 6666.
STRAND (Strand, W.C.).—"The Crimson Alibi," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3459-X.
VAUDEVILLE (Strand, W.C. 2).—"Buzz Buzz," 8.15. Tues., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3815.
WINTER GARDEN THEATRE (Drury-lane, W.C.).—"Kissing Time," 8. Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 415.
WYNDHAM'S (Charing Cross-road, W.C.).—"The Choice," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Reg. 3028.

VARIETY THEATRES.

COLISEUM (Charing Cross).—Mark Hambourg, Grock and Partner, Arthur Prince, Margaret Cooper, G. H. Elliott, Ethel Hook, Malcolm Scott, &c. 2.30 and 7.35. Gerr. 7541.
HIPPODROME (Leicester-square).—"Joy Bells," 2.30 and 8.30. Gerr. 650.
PALLADIUM (Argyll-street, W.). —Hilda Glyder, Harry Tate, Neil Kenyon, Whit Cunliffe, Versatile Three, Laddie Cliff, Two Rascals, Thornley-Dodge, Broughton and Creedon, the Gladiators, Masux and Mazette, Red, White and Blue Troupe, 2.30, 6, 8.45. Gerr. 7004.
VICTORIA PALACE (Victoria Station, S.W.).—George Graves and company, Edgar Hudson Quintette, Frank Whitman, Billy O'Connor, 6.15 and 8.30.

THEY SAY——

That since his motor accident, Jack Hulbert has heard from three motoring firms offering to teach him how to drive.

* * *

That Florence Smithson's home-made cakes are "as good as mother makes them."

* * *

That Peggy O'Neil has brought all her hustling methods with her from America.

* * *

That Irene Vanbrugh's new pale-grey suède boots are the envy of all who see them.

* * *

That Lady Wyndham will be greatly indebted to anyone who can find her lost Persian cat.

* * *

That the Ziegfield Chorus, which is coming from New York, possesses the prettiest girls in the world.

* * *

That during Doris Lloyd's seven years at the Liverpool Repertory Theatre, she rose from student to leading lady.

* * *

That Lady Alexander considers smart clothes have a medicinal value, and that there is a tonic effect in merely looking at them in a shop window.

* * *

That Phyllis Neilson-Terry has no intention of continuing her film-acting, and prefers the stage.

* * *

That Robert Loraine's holiday in Switzerland will be a short one.

* * *

That Sir Alfred Butt has no superstitious tremours about Friday.

* * *

That Princess Iwa has never had her voice trained.

THE VARIETY WORLD.

Many Happy Returns—A Comedian's Enterprise—Scottish Chief's Wedding.

Marie Lloyd's Jubilee.

That Queen of Comediennes and happiest of humoristes, Marie Lloyd, will celebrate her fiftieth birthday to-morrow, and the variety world and many friends outside it will wish her many happy returns.

Marie is appearing this week at the Bedford, Camden Town, after an interval of 28 years, due to her West-End bookings, and proposes on the eventful night to bring on the stage her father and mother, who are both happily in the best of health. Marie tells us that if she doesn't make a speech they will.

Guests at the Lane.

The old music hall artists now residing at "Brinsworth" have been invited to Drury Lane Theatre next Friday afternoon to witness the performance of the pantomime, and afterwards will be entertained at tea by Stanley Lupino. With Harry Claff, Stanley Lupino mentioned the idea to Mr. R. H. Lindo, the secretary of the Drury Lane Theatre Company, who at once kindly acceded to their request.

Brinsworth on the Screen.

By the kindness of Sir Oswald Stoll, the film of the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Institution at Twickenham is being screened this week at the Empire, Finsbury Park, and next week will be shown at the London Coliseum.

Lily Lena.

We are glad to hear that the popular comedienne, Lily Lena, who was laid up with the 'flu on her second week in the States, has quite recovered, and reappeared last Monday at Shea's Theatre, Buffalo.

Will Evans's Enterprise.

Mr. Will Evans, who is making a big success as the Baroness Beauxchamps, in "Cinderella," at Drury Lane Theatre, his ninth consecutive year at that historic house, has, we hear, enlarged upon his activities at Shoreham-by-Sea, where he is at present building six more bungalows. As he already owns several of these, he bids fair to become an extensive property owner in this salubrious spot, popular with many other professionals, who find it a delightful haven of rest and recreation after a strenuous season's work. Mr. Evans' new additions to Bungalow Town will be very sumptuously built, will have all modern sanitary arrangements, and be electrically lighted. Many interesting attractions are, we understand, now under consideration to enhance the popularity of this charming health resort.

Record Leicester Palace Matinée.

Sir Oswald Stoll, who annually loans the Leicester Palace Theatre to the Royal Infirmary Matinée Committee, has helped, with the assistance of the artists who took part and freely gave their services, in enriching that deserving institution to the extent of £565, which is the largest amount that has ever been handed over from a matinée performance. On the expenditure side of the balance-sheet there was not a single item. The previous largest amount raised was £439 2s. 8d. This news will, no doubt, be very gratifying to the artists who assisted in raising the record sum. The aggregate for the matinées since the inception has now reached the sum of £2,615 12s. 11d.

W. F. Frame Memorial Fund.

A matinée performance is to be given at Hengler's Circus, Glasgow, on Thursday in aid of the W. F. Frame Memorial Fund. The directors have arranged for the full circus programme to be given, and Mr. Harry Milne has secured a number of excellent turns from the various theatres, music halls, and pantomimes in the city.

Manager at Finsbury Park.

Mr. E. J. Macdermott, who now occupies the position of manager of the Finsbury Park Empire, is a son of the late G. H. Macdermott. Mr. Macdermott, who was previously associated with the Moss Empires, has only recently left the Army, and has some exciting experiences to recount.

V.A.B.F. and I.

Since our last issue the following additions have been made to the V.A.B.F. and I. dinner subscription list: John Barker and Co., Ltd., £52 10s.; Beneficent Order of Terriers, £26 5s.; Union Castle S.S. Co., £10 10s.; Lord Leverhulme, £10; Austin Rudd, £4 4s.; Atlas Steel Foundry Co., £2 2s.; Chapman and Hall, £1 1s.

Miss Helen Charles.

Miss Helen Charles, the clever child mimic, singer and entertainer, has been booked by Mr. Ben J. Fuller to play his Australasian Circuit, and will sail as soon as arrangements can be made.

Talbot O'Farrell in America.

F. and H. Reeves and Lamport have received a cable from Mr. Eddie Darling, the chief of the Keith Circuit in America, stating that Talbot O'Farrell, the popular and genial Irish enertainer, opened on Monday the 2nd, and made a very big hit.

An Historic Wedding.

Maclaine, of Lochbuie, chief of the Scottish Clan Maclaine, is to be married at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on Monday, at 2.15 p.m., to Olive Margaret Stewart Richardson. While he was in the Army, Maclaine appeared in a concert party which gave many performances for charity, and as a result he was offered a professional engagement on the music halls. He is billed as The Topical Fellow, and on the night of his wedding is appearing at Victoria Palace with a new song entitled "I'm Getting My Own Back Now."

He is a great favourite with the Australian soldiers, and his mascot is a stuffed model kangaroo, given to him by 900 Australian soldiers the last time he sang to them at their headquarters in Horseferry Road, Westminster. He was among the first fifty in the war to receive the Military Cross for valour on the field. He has been mentioned five times in despatches, and has been severely wounded twice, and received a bar to his Military Cross on February 1, 1920, for conspicuous bravery in the field.

For his wedding ceremony the bridegroom will be dressed in full regalia of a Highland Chief. He will wear a family heirloom—the waistcoat belonging to Bonnie Prince Charlie, and carry in his hand the chief's bonnet with the three golden eagle feathers, the silver pistols, chief's dirk, body belt, and skean dhu. By kind permission of the officer commanding the 93rd Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders, which is his own county regiment, the pipe band will play outside St. Margaret's while he is being married.

The G.O.M. of Variety.

Mr. Richard Thornton, the "Grand Old Man" of the variety world, celebrated his 81st birthday on Wednesday, Feb. 4, and was the recipient of many congratulations.

Congratulations.

The news has just leaked out that Pat. Thayer, the popular young composer, and now of that merry team, O'Neil and Thayer, was married on Dec. 21 last to Miss Beryl Mascott, who was last seen in town in "Joy Bells" at Finsbury Park. The wedding took place at St. Michael's and All Angels, Hammersmith, the bridegroom having to travel overnight from

MRS. PAT THAYER.

Liverpool with his partner, Denis O'Neil, who was best man. The boys were due to play at the Bristol Hippodrome the following week, after which the bride and bridegroom spent a three weeks' honeymoon in Devonshire.

Miss Mascott has been on the stage since she was seven, and has played in many important productions, including "Shell Out," "Ocean Waves," "Good-Byee," "Birds of Paradise," in addition to a six months' season at the Folies Bergères, Paris, her last engagement being in "Joy Bells," which marks her retirement

MR. PAT THAYER.

from the stage. Pat. Thayer will be remembered as one of the original members of the Follies, and was an old friend of the late Harry Pélissier, of whom he has many happy recollections. Pat. is responsible for all the numbers used in the music hall act of O'Neil and Thayer, a show which has quickly become established in vaudeville, as we hear that, although the act was produced only four months ago, it has been secured for the leading tours for the next three years.

For South Africa.

Bessie Slaughter, the popular contralto, is sailing on Friday from Southampton for South Africa, per H.M.S. Walmer Castle. This is Miss Slaughter's third visit, and she anticipates being away for a considerable period.

A Popular Ballad.

A new ballad published by the Parker Charles Music Company, which seems destined to achieve a great vogue, is D. Cameron Forrester's "'Tis Then Your Spirit Speaks to Mine," for which, we understand, the applications for professional copies constitute a record. It may be that the beautiful idea contained in the verses, with its suggestion of a communion of spirits and ultimate reunion, makes a special appeal to a public greatly interested in the spiritualistic idea at the present time. Anyhow, the fact remains that this particular number is proving a great encore bringer, and is being eagerly sought by vocalists.

A Chance for the Children.

Children under the age of sixteen visiting the Willesden Hippodrome this week are asked to write short descriptive essays or imaginative stories on Carmo's Animal Illusions. The famous illusionist will present his real Bengal tiger, and Brutus, his lion. Rosie, the tiger, will mysteriously appear, whilst Brutus will just as mysteriously disappear. Having witnessed these illusions, the children may write their essays about the animals, or how they think the trick is accomplished, whilst a description of the scene in which the animals appear is also acceptable.

Carmo is offering three prizes of £1 each for the essays he considers show the most promise, both from the points of view of good English and accurate description. Mr. Charles Gulliver, managing director of the London Theatre of Varieties, will present two extra prizes for the two essays nearest in excellence to the winning three. The essays must be addressed to Carmo at the Willesden Hippodrome not later than Thursday morning, and the prizes will be distributed by him at the second house on Friday evening, Feb. 13. Prize-winners will be notified to attend.

Muriel Forbes.

Muriel Forbes, who is now playing Ida in the Brother Luck's successful comedy sketch, "Film Stars," is an enthusiast on film acting, and has appeared in "Westward Ho." She is the daughter of Flora Hayter, author of "Nell Gough," "Under Orders," etc. Full of spirit and fire, with her drop of Scotch and Italian blood, this young actress should soon make her mark.

Pearl Mitchell and Sister.

We are sorry to hear that Pearl Mitchell and Sister have had to cancel their engagements at the Chiswick Empire and at Golders Green, owing to Miss Mitchell having to undergo an operation to her left wrist. It is hoped, however, that they will be able to resume on Monday week at the Palace, Lincoln.

Syd. Sydney.

Syd. Sydney, the versatile entertainer, has just concluded four years' booking on the Stoll Tour, and has been re-engaged for two years more, 1920-21. Syd, who is booked with all the principal tours, has had several offers for revue, but future bookings have prevented his accepting any of them.

Miss Lily Vine.

Miss Lily Vine, who has, we hear, had to refuse two offers to play lead in Australia, and four in pantomimes, as principal boy, also pictures, is now playing leading lady to Mr. Fred Kitchen in Mr. A. de Courville's new production, entitled "Same to You." Her visit to America has had to be postponed.

The Gladiators.

At the Palladium this week the Gladiators, in their wonderful feats of strength, are making their reappearance at this house, and the position they occupy in the middle of the programme is a deserved compliment to the cleverness of a most attractive act.

Colossal Music Hall for Brighton.

Particulars of a very important enterprise at Brighton were revealed on Tuesday, the 3rd, during the hearing of an application to the local licensing justices on behalf of Sir Oswald Stoll for a restaurant and winter-garden licence for two theatres in West-street. It was explained that the premises to be licensed were part of a big scheme, in the development of which Sir Oswald Stoll intended to construct a cinema theatre larger than the London Opera House, a music hall which would be the largest in England, a winter garden which would compare with that at the Midland Hotel, Manchester, and a restaurant would be made to accommodate 3,000 people. It was estimated that the outlay would be between £500,000 and £600,000.

This scheme has been discussed in the town for several months, and some criticism was offered the proposal to acquire a certain number of small tenements included in the area of the new buildings covering one and a-half acre, but Sir Oswald Stoll has given an undertaking that none of these tenants shall be displaced until some other dwellings have been provided, and as to the greater part of the site it is now known to be scheduled for destruction as slum property. The Licensing Committee granted provisional licences upon terms agreed.

Harry Gould.

On Saturday last that clever dude comedian, Harry Gould, terminated his engagement with Harry Day, with whom he has been associated for nearly three years, commencing with "Three Cheers," after which he went into "Vanity Fair," and then with the present show, "Stunts," which is now in its second year. Harry tells us that in the past seven years he has not had one week out.

Reg. Wentworth.

Having concluded a very successful season in panto. at the Grand, Brighton, Reg. Wentworth has resumed his own act again, and is this week appearing at the Hippodrome, Cheltenham. He returns to London on April 19, at the Hackney Empire. Reg. is still having a very successful time with the "Panama" number.

Mayne and Sheridan's Third Return.

At the Shepherd's Bush Empire this week the "wise jesters," Mayne and Sheridan, are making their third appearance at this house within six months, surely a record. They are singing two new songs, "The Women are Wiser than Me" and "When the Last Colonial Soldier Goes Away" (Lawrence Wright), both capital numbers, and their smart show is very popular.

The Bros. Walsh.

Samuel Lee, of the West London Variety Agency, has discovered an attractive act in that of the Bros. Walsh, who made a great hit at Hippodrome, Rotherhithe. They are playing this week at the Hippodrome, Putney.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

The committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild thank the following for their donations to the matinée to be held next Tuesday at the Prince of Wales's Theatre:—Burton W. Ellis, Lord Mayor of Liverpool, £5; Messrs. Nestlé and Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co., £1 1s.; the following, per Mrs. Lewis Levy: B. Cragg, £2 2s.; A. Spalding, £2; Mr. Hawkins, £10; Sid Freeman, £5 5s.; the following, per Miss Lottie Albert: W. Pearce (of the Palace, Bath), £5 5s.; George Clark, 10s. 6d.; Frank Ellis-ton, 10s. 6d.

Miss Ruby Roya is thanked for her annual subscription, £1 1s. Messrs. Will Day, Ltd., are thanked for providing slides and enabling the committee to have their matinée widely advertised. The following firms are thanked for gifts: Messrs. Peak, Frean, for biscuits; Messrs. Buszard's, for cakes; Messrs. John Walker & Co., Ltd., one bottle "Johnnie Walker"; Messrs. John Player & Sons, cigarettes.

MY MUSIC HALL TOUR.

THE EVOLUTION OF THE REVUE—A GOOD WORD AT LAST FOR "PUSSYFOOT"—HOME LIFE ON THE HALLS.

If to change a thing is the essence of progress, the evolution of modern entertainments is progressing towards the heights. Once upon a time we had comic operas to cheer our fun-seeking souls. Then came the musical comedy, to be jostled aside in its turn by revues. But even the revues did not have it all their own way. Short entertainments began to borrow their plumes, and the revues retaliated by becoming short entertainments. So we have to-day a medley of new amusements which are modifications of older ones, and are of every size and shape.

At Shepherd's Bush Empire.

"The Midnight Frolics," which I saw last week at the Shepherd's Bush Empire, is an example of the revue cut down. In a sense, it is a victim of circumstances, for we could have stood more of it. Two or three "midnights" would not have exhausted the talent of the frolickers, who included Gene Gerrard, Arthur Margetson, Monty Wolf, Ena Dale, Gertie Lawrence, and Gertrude Lawson.

The "song show," as it is called, has a lot of very good humour in it, chiefly supplied by Gene Gerrard. His drunken scene is exceedingly funny, and his explanation that he had merely attended a charity meeting in aid of the Home for Destitute Moneylenders. got a big laugh. The Bolshevik Rag and the "Deadly Dull Quartette" were also very funny, and the general level of the show was a great deal above the average. The most tuneful song was "Wonderful Eyes," delightfully sung by Gertrude Lawson and Arthur Margetson.

That took up one-half of the Shepherd's Bush programme. The other half was devoted to Ernie Ream and his baby grand (which he suggests he carries about with him, but one can hardly believe it these strap-hanging days); Daisy Griff, as lavish in spirits and dresses as ever; Vera Caine, the British athletic girl; the Femina Quartette; and—in place of the Buchanans—that most amusing couple, Graham and Cullen. Their turn consists of a wordy bout between a naval and a military officer. The military chap scores the most points, but the naval fellow is so nice and breezy about it that you don't mind, and feel that the freedom of the seas is still o.k.

The Femina Quartette maintain their refined standard, and, incidentally, gave you a tantalising glimpse of home life as it should be lived. I say tantalising, because home life to-day does not generally mean a musical evening in an elegant drawing-room, with an air of ease, rich curtains, and furniture dusted and polished by maids who dust and polish for the mere joy of it. Home life to-day, as often as not, means a large bed-sitting room, inhabited by a patient family trying hard not to be nasty to each other. Lucky Femina Quartette, to spend their evenings so cosily. Who would not play and sing well in such circumstances.

At the Hammersmith Palace.

Owing to a train delay—I think the engine-driver was depressed over the falling of the pound or something—I was too late for Olive Dene at the Hammersmith Palace, and only arrived just in time to hear Borneo Gardiner, the New Zealand entertainer, explaining that memory was the feeling that steals over you when your friends tell you "original" stories. The feeling did not steal over me that time. Borneo told stories and whistled, and acted altogether as though he had never heard about the falling pound himself.

But, then, music-hall stars never do reflect the depressing side of life. The weather may be of the consistency of pea-soup, and Harry Tate will still sell motor-cars. Butter may rise to 5s. 6d. per lb., and there will be no diminution of the Coliseum drummer's zeal. England may fall, and Ernie Mayne will continue to wonder where flies go in the winter-time. That is the secret of the halls. You leave your worries on the mat.

Among the most popular turns at the Hammersmith were Selfridge and Harrod, and, quite apart from the question of humour, I award them a good mark for courage. They are the only artists whom I have ever heard breathe a good word for "Pussyfoot." The good word occurred in one of their songs, in which, while defending beer—"You can take away an Englishman's money or his life—but don't touch his beer!"—they also defended Mr. Johnson, and said that for all his opinions he had proved he was plucky and a good sport. Qualities which also belong to Messrs. Selfridge and Harrod.

Marie Dainton gave a selection of her imitations, and was particularly happy in that of Gertie Gitana. But they were all good. The audience much enjoyed the dancing and singing of Elkins, Fay, and Elkins, and the Four Madcaps. The littlest Madcap (name not mentioned) ought to have a future, particularly if she modifies a slight tendency to over-act. An aerial gymnastic turn was provided by the Hanlon-Charles Quartette, and the sketch of the evening was "One Good Turn," which I reviewed a little while ago, and which is one of the soundest sketches now running.

I always hate dismissing George Mozart with a line, but if he reads my articles he knows by now what I think of him. So I will give my final space to Hal Wright, whom I haven't seen for many a moon, and whose voice still rings through my ears. It is an extraordinary voice. If you doubt it, try yourself to imitate a soprano in a solo, and then a baritone in a solo, and then both together in a rapid duet. That will give you some idea of the kind of voice Hal has.

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Mr. J. M. McCann's Benefit.

Mr. James M. McCann, the esteemed and courteous manager of the Grand Opera House, Belfast, was accorded his annual benefit recently, when there was an overflowing audience, furnishing proof of the great popularity Mr. McCann enjoys in the northern capital. In addition to the pantomime, "Sinbad," several artists from Belfast Hippodrome came over and contributed various acceptable items, by kind permission of the directors. On behalf of the subscribers, Mr. Edward Lewis (Tinbad) presented Mr. McCann with a pedestal shaving outfit, from the manager (Mr. Clifford Reid) of the Belfast Royal Cinema, also orchestra and staff; a handsome cheque from his numerous admirers in Belfast; a wallet of Treasury notes from the Grand Opera House orchestra and staff before and behind the curtain; and a beautiful present from Miss Marie Swanton.

Max and Moran.

We hear that Johnny Max, late of the "Over There" revue, will shortly be producing a new show, in which he will be partnered by Eddie Moran, late of Atherton and Hyde.

Romaine and Dainton.

Rex. Romaine and Doris Dainton, who were at the Victoria Palace last week, were in their best form with their clever and amusing entertainment, and when we looked in on Friday evening at the second house their act was evidently giving keen delight to the audience. Mr. Romaine asks us to state that for some time past their business arrangements have been solely conducted by F. and H. Reeves and Lamport.

George Bolton.

Another artist who had a most successful time at this house was George Bolton (who has a big reputation in the concert world), and we hear that he has been secured for many return dates at the Victoria Palace. This week George is appearing at the Palace, Reading, and his next appearance in town will be at Maskelyne's for a season.

Wal. Langtry in Town.

Having just concluded a most successful panto. season with Harry Burns, Wal Langtry is appearing in town this week at the Metropolitan.

Syd. Walker.

That popular comedian, Syd. Walker, who recently concluded panto. with Harry McKelvie, has, we regret to hear, had an attack of laryngitis; but, all being well, will resume his single act on Monday next at the Woolwich Empire.

Budd and Clare's Successful Opening.

At Golders Green last week Budd and Clare, an act new to this country from the States, where it has had a good season, met with a very hearty reception. We shall expect to see them in town shortly.

Eddy Foy.

We hear that Eddy Foy, whose clever performance as the Cat in the Lyceum panto. has won such golden opinions, commences a sixteen weeks' season at Blackpool in May.

Jim Nolan.

Last week at the Hippo., Aston, Jim Nolan was in fine form and was given very hearty receptions. Jim opens at the Palladium in May, and follows with a three months' tour of the L.T.V. Halls. He is at Coventry this week, and pays a brief visit to London next week to play the Hippo., Rotherhithe.

Dainty Doris.

Having quite recovered from her illness, Dainty Doris made her reappearance at the Bedford on Monday, and was given a gratifying welcome. She sang two numbers, "Nobody Knows and Nobody Seems to Care" and "Mandy and Me," concluding with a neat display of dancing.

The Terriers.

At the meeting on Sunday last, Stanley J. Damerell officiated as W.T., Jimmy Haima as V.T., W. H. Atlas G.C., Walter Norman W.I., Joe Atkin W.D., Ken Barton Y.B., Harry Bent as organist. Arthur Were, secretary.

The annual general meeting of the Order will be held on Sunday next, at 6 p.m. sharp. All Terriers in or near town are asked to attend same. Any member who has not received a copy of the agenda and balance-sheet should communicate with the secretary.

Voting papers must be forwarded to the scrutineers this week.

Any Terrier who is acquainted with Mr. Harry Burton Lewis (entertainer) is asked to notify the secretary.

The following members are requested to forward present address:—Charles Elstree, Tom Wana, Charles Stevens, Frank Sauteron, Harry Levaine, Eric Winskill, Neville Stone, Leo Sterling, and Frank Prince.

The following artists sailed from Southampton on Friday last, per the R.M.S. "Armadale Castle," to fulfil engagements with the African Theatres Trust, Ltd., booked by the I.V.T.A., Ltd.:—Walker and Bunting, Le Bruns, Oliver Weir, Fred Knight.

VARIETY ARTISTES' FEDERATION.

MASS MEETING IN GLASGOW.

A largely attended mass meeting of the Variety Artistes' Federation was held in the Central Halls, Bath-street, Glasgow, on Sunday evening last, when those present had the opportunity of listening to an able address by the chairman, Mr. Albert Voyce. The invitation for all variety artists in the district to attend the meeting was largely taken advantage of, and among those present were Mr. George Formby (who has been performing in a Glasgow pantomime) and Mr. Charlie Whittle (who is topping the bill at a local music hall).

For the Good of the Profession.

In introducing the proceedings the chairman extended a hearty welcome to all those present. Whatever differences of opinion might be between them (he proceeded), he was sure that no one present that evening would allow personalities of any kind to intervene in their mutual endeavour to do something for the good of themselves and for the good of their profession in general. They were there for the benefit of their industry. If in any way simply to ventilate their personal views and ideas, they were there for no good cause; but if they were there to arrive at a conclusion which might be beneficial both collectively and individually, then they were there for something which really mattered. Mr. Voyce outlined the various activities of the Federation since its inception, and he urged that the organisation was now a very strong, powerful, and determined company seeking that the evils which stood in their paths as variety artists might be removed by joint action. They wanted the V.A.F. to become a living monument, and through its agency they were endeavouring to remove every obstacle and every evil which stood in their path, and which threatened the just rights of the individual or which promised to endanger the wellbeing of the profession as a whole. Mr. Voyce dealt with the proposal to appoint prominent officials of the Federation in the city of Glasgow, and also in the city of Manchester, and this announcement was received by those present with great cordiality. Whether they were members of the Federation or not, he (Mr. Voyce) thought they would agree that something should be done for the improving of the conditions under which Scottish artists had to work. They could not, however, help themselves unless they came into an organisation which had power and influence behind it; and he assured them that the V.A.F. were prepared to spend all that was necessary to help them to gain their just rights. But they must first of all, however, come into their ranks and become a part and parcel of the organisation. The V.A.F. in its present strong and powerful and rich position was rendering great service to the whole profession, and that service was growing increasingly greater. The chairman next dealt generally with the different activities of the Federation, and he invited an interchange of opinion among those present.

Local Government in Scotland.

Mr. George Westland—speaking as the President of the recently formed Vaudeville Artists' Protective Association for Scotland—said that he was sure they were all delighted with the able speech which had been made by Mr. Voyce, and they were also highly pleased to learn of the continued power and influence of that organisation. He felt that something ought to be done for Scotland, and as recently as the middle of December they had decided to form a little band of their own. He wanted to assure Mr. Voyce, however, that this was not in any way a rival organisation, and one of its objects was to assist the needy ones. There was certainly room for local government in Scotland, and they wanted conditions made better as far as the smaller Scottish halls were concerned.

Glasgow Branch Agreed to.

The chairman thanked Mr. Westland for his remarks, and, after some further discussion, the policy of establishing a Glasgow office of the V.A.F. was enthusiastically agreed to. It was left to a committee, consisting of Messrs. George Westland, James Douglas, Hector Donald, Jock Mills, Pete Lee, and William Ford, to meet with Mr. Voyce to discuss the necessary arrangements; while on an appeal being made for non-members to join the Federation there was such a general desire to do so that practically every member of the audience on leaving the hall was a Federationite.

In the course of the proceedings Mr. George Formby made a few remarks, and promised every assistance in his power in promoting the interests of the Federation in Scotland.

A Wandering Minstrel.

Mr. J. J. Darq, who describes himself as the Wandering Minstrel, gave an exhibition of his talent at the Rehearsal Theatre on Thursday afternoon. Mr. Darq, who possesses a fund of delightful anecdotes, gave several well-contrasted character impersonations which revealed plenty of versatility, and also danced nimbly. To conclude, Mr. Darq gave an excerpt from the earlier part of Shakespeare's "Julius Cæsar," and shone considerably as a character-actor.

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THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

VICTORIA PALACE.

A prominent item in the entertaining programme here this week is George Graves, in "The Key of the Flat," which kept the house in a perpetual roar of laughter on Monday evening. In addition to the inimitable comedian, who plays the Colonel, there is quite a strong cast. Miss Florence Hunt is a vigorous Mrs. Bath, Miss Daisy Davis is the very attractive young typist, Miss Jerome plays Miss Snatchit, and the cast is completed by Mr. Wilfred Norman, who plays the odd-job man.

Another very popular turn here is Daimler and Badie. Every moment of their act is a delight, from the Tyrolean number to the ladies' band. Alec Daimler's imitations of the versions of "The Village Blacksmith" at a camp competition caused great amusement. The ladies' band, with attractive Dora Badie as the drummer, and Daimler's closing dance, is burlesque at its best.

The musical side of the programme is in the hands of the Edgar Hudson Quintette, which continues to be one of the most artistic instrumental and vocal acts on the halls. Mr. Frank Whitman was recalled several times after his dance-mad fiddling act, and Mr. Billy O'Connor, with his dexterous fingers and his magical pack of cards, was very much in favour. Mr. Tom Reno created a deal of amusement with his songs and stories; Hengler Bros. are appearing in a very diverting tumbling act of the silent variety, and Rene Rice, a juvenile comedienne, completes the bill with a couple of songs.

THE METROPOLITAN.

Hayman and Lowe, in their musical and songful entertainment, in which this pair of mere men, with a piano, contrive to capture the favour of the audience instanter, are making a great success at the "Met." In their "Spellin' Bee" duet they hit the taste of the audience to a nicety. Their "I Don't Want to Go to Idaho," with its quaint wit and taking tune, also goes great guns. "Ragtime Faust" is a distinct novelty, and scores another bull.

Edis and Forbes, in their burlesque sketch "Fresh Hair," provide a capital absurdity, and the bizarre drollery of the suppositious hairdresser, with his comical conceits, keeps the audience in roars of laughter, the grotesque dancing of this masquerading Peer being a remarkable choreographic contribution. This turn finds great favour.

Hinsle, the novelty comedy illusionist, is very smart and deft in his tricky manœuvring of all sorts of material transformation, which he does in most mirthful manner. After producing live stock from an empty cabinet, he winds up by bringing forth his fair assistant, Gertie Rees, to dance a hornpipe, and again as a little Dutch girl. Wilfred Burnand, in "Major Pott," etc., is a clever character comedian. The Makido Family of Japanese artists, in their elaborate and finished acrobatic performance, do some marvellous balancing feats. Two little Jap girls juggle with clubs and plates and things, and the final acts of toe balancing and ten somersaults is a fitting conclusion to a wonderful show.

Auber, the musical monarch, excels in his cornet playing and his handling of a variety of different instruments. Charlie Rich, raconteur and comedian, in "Wishing," gets many a laugh with his hints and definitions, and his parody, "Upwards," appeals to all victims of the profiteer. Laura Guerite is a sprightly and versatile comedienne with a strong fund of wit. Daniel Mayer and Co., Ltd., present Naylor Grimson and Ethel Hart in the sketch, "The Meanest Man on Earth," a capital entertainment and very well acted.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE.

The opening item in this week's excellent programme is Madame Dalmere's entertaining Table Circus, with its half-hundred of performing rabbits, cats, rats, doves and monkeys. A particularly humorous fellow is the monkey, who comes down stage in a toy motor car, and surveys the audience with a look of withering scorn. Miss Mary Leighton, the well-known soprano, was in great form, and her fine ringing notes quickly endeared her in the hearts of her listeners.

Mr. Arthur Ferries is a genuine character comedian. Rustic types are his speciality. Both his delineations of the "eldest inhabitant" and the "village idiot" are capital character studies, and are, moreover, plentifully besprinkled with excellent patter. Those talented youngsters, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, are presenting a new scena, "A School Outing," which has a picturesque seaside setting and plenty of opportunity for singing, dancing and comedy. This act finishes with an exhilarating performance from a juvenile jazz band.

An artistic little performer is Miss Betty Washington, a dainty barefoot violiniste, with an extensive repertoire culled both from classics and the moderns. Her potpourri of popular songs set the audience a-humming, and nimble dancing is also numbered among her accomplishments.

That popular couple, Beatie and Babs were accorded their usual hearty reception. Mr. Robb Wilton, the "confidential" comedian, made a great success with a very funny skit, "Sherlock Bill," wherein as a detective, he absolutely refused to arrest a female poisoner. The little skit is full of excellent comic material which is exploited to the full by Mr. Wilton. The programme is concluded by the Flemings, whose turn comprises some remarkable feats of strength and a number of classic poses.

BRIXTON EMPRESS.

The greater part of the evening's programme at Brixton this week is taken up by the revue, "Sunshine." The book is by Dick Ray, the lyrics by Julian Rose, and the music by C. G. V.-Fentiman. Well-staged, with pretty scenery and handsome dresses, it runs brightly along from start to finish, and provides an excellent medium for rollicking humour, graceful dancing, and melodious singing. The humour lies mainly in the hands of the author, Dick Ray, whose unflagging high spirits and energy as Mike Mooch keep the fun going throughout the evening. Some excellent and graceful dancing is provided by Miss Florence Thurston and Mr. Matt Leamore, whilst "Sheba" delights the audience with her violin-playing, and Miss May Shill is very successful in a song, "Sons of France." In her other song Miss Shill is aided by some very charming grouping of the chorus, the scene being rendered very effective and picturesque by some artistic lighting effects. Some excellent step-dancing is provided by two male members of the company. The singing and dancing of the chorus is excellent.

Some first-class turns precede the revue. The humorous dialogue by the Two Anartos provides an opportunity for some excellent fooling, the impersonation of the village idiot and the village maiden proving most entertaining. The De Lilo Sisters, Lowe and Loman, Kitty Burchell, and Ferguson and Mack complete the capital programme.

KILBURN EMPIRE.

Among the many attractive features at this popular Gulliver house are the contributions of Jen Latona, with accordion, "It's That Little Touch of Home," her song about father, and "I'm Goin' Back to the Place Where I was Born." Miss Latona has a brightness and vivacity which never fail to please, whether at the piano or impetuously emphasising her points. Sam Mayo, with his "Captain Boozer of the Nancy Lee" ditty, and his "Rag-time Drummer from U.S.A.," certain scorers both, and in his latest song of the artist who draws "just like life," is another prime favourite, sure of a hearty welcome. Liane D'Eve is a charming and chic Parisienne, and her song scena is a very attractive one, her final jazz jumble and "Freedom" song and the accompanying beautiful tableau being heartily applauded.

Jean Andrews, L.R.A.M., the golden-voiced soprano, who is featuring the Lawrence Wright ballads, "My Own Pierrot" and "Somewhere in Some Corner of the World," on Monday in "Come Away with Me" and "Wonderful Mother of Mine," met with a very gratifying reception. Tambo and Tambo, tambourine experts, perform some clever tricks. Bain and Hill, in their comedy act introduce some quaint conjuring tricks, and give a decidedly clever turn.

Percy Honri, with his concertina, plays the music of "The Chocolate Soldier" and wonderfully well he plays it, too, affording a musical treat; and he is equally popular with his other selections. In "Heart of a Rose" and "Somewhere" he proves the possession of a fine singing voice, and he is a thorough artist with a keen sense of humour. Harry Ford is a character comedian of much comic resource, and in his song of "The Butcher" he quite invokes our sympathies for this much-maligned trade. He is equally good in "The Comforts of a Home," in which he paints such a vivid picture of domestic bliss. Terence Byron and Co. in "Simple Simon" provide a mirthful finale.

SHOREDITCH OLYMPIA.

"Capacity" business was the order of things at the Shoreditch Olympia on Monday, and the variety and excellence of the programme fully justified it. George Carney has a style of his own, and his two scenas, "The Count" and "The Orderly," gave him many opportunities to amuse his audience, both in patter and business. An all-round, good act. Fred Barnes, as ever, was very popular with his three numbers, including his burlesque Italian song and "Give Me the Moonlight." The favourite light comedian was accorded the heartiest of receptions. Jean Marvin and Thomas Rhyde gave a novelty in quick-change business. The thrilling sketch, "The Sheriff of Lonesome Pine," provided both artists full scope to show their undeniable cleverness. Miss Marvin is the possessor of fine dramatic gifts, perfect elocution, and a well-attuned voice, and Mr. Rhyde is an equally accomplished actor.

Leslie Elliott, the girl at the piano, sang two capital numbers, "I Shall Have to Call the Guard" being especially enjoyed. Stan Kavanagh and Co. were responsible for a clever exhibition of juggling. The O'Gorman Bros., in cross-talk and dancing, were great favourites; Murphy and Mack were responsible for a lot of fun; and Bert Williams had many good points and lines in his ventriloquial show; while Olive Dene, after charming her hearers as a waitress, gave a smart sand dance.

"THE ODDS" AT SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

The production of a one-act play, entitled "The Odds," by Miss Ethel M. Dell, at the Shepherd's Bush Empire, on Monday, occasioned considerable interest. "The Odds" plays almost exactly twenty minutes, the scene being the living-room of an Australian farmhouse, the home of Jack Burton. Jack's young and beautiful sister, Dot, has recently come out from England to keep house for her brother. At the opening of the play Jack is on the point of leaving his sister alone at the homestead for a few hours, and there is discussion between the two about a certain Buckskin Bill, who is wanted by the police, Jack giving his sister advice as to what she should do should he turn up. Dot says she will shoot on sight. Jack departs, and Dot goes out to feed the lambs. Hardly is her back turned, when enters Buckskin Bill. He hurriedly searches for food and drink, but before he has had time to consume anything a scream is heard, and Dot rushes in, having been bitten in the arm by a poisonous snake. She mistakes Bill for the Inspector of Police, and Bill, pretending he is that gentleman, attends to the snake-bite. He is on the point of saying "Good-bye" when Jack and the inspector arrive. Dot, who has fallen in love at first sight with Bill, rushes him into the adjoining scullery, and when the two men attempt to search the house she keeps them at bay with a couple of revolvers. Sufficient time having elapsed for Bill to escape, Dot drops the "barkers." Jack goes outside, and the furious inspector departs altogether, when from the scullery in again pops Buckskin. Dot and Bill indulge in a brief love scene, Jack being witness through the window. He is, however, disposed to be magnanimous—"You saved my sister's life, I give you yours!"—and bids Buckskin Bill "make tracks." Buckskin states that he will soon return, and that when he does so it will be as an honest man.

Charming Miss Amy Brandon-Thomas made a very pretty and vigorous Dot, and Buckskin Bill was admirably played by Mr. Athol Stewart. Mr. Noel D. Dainton as Jack, and Mr. Arthur G. Leigh as the police inspector also do excellent work.

"THE STAMPEDERS."

This act is one of the chief attractions at the Empire, Woolwich, this week, and introduces Leslie Walter, from Cheynne Wyo, champion bucking-horse rider, and Pablo Ramos, from Old Mexico, champion roper. The first-mentioned, with a stock-whip, performs some amazing tricks, as, for instance, cutting a cigarette out of a man's pocket and taking a handkerchief out of his pocket. Then Pablo Ramos, making his entry on horseback, gives a neat exhibition of fancy rope spinning, and Walter, as the cowboy on the horse, galloping across the stage, Ramos cleverly lasses any part of the animal mentioned by a member of the audience.

After the performance of several fancy tricks, as spinning the rope whilst turning somersaults, &c., the act-drop rises, revealing Leslie as an Indian chief, who performs wonderful feats on a broncho which gallops on a revolving platform. Both Ramos and Walter are genuine cowboys in ranch attire, and won their championships in the Stampedes in America. A special advantage of the act is that it is adaptable for either a small stage or circus.

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ON THE ROAD.

PLAYS.

Aladdin (Arnold).—Feb. 16, Tivoli, Manchester.
Allington Charsley Opera Co.—Feb. 9, Hippo., Stockton; 16, Hippo., Stockton.
Arlette.—Feb. 9, Royal, Rochdale; 16, Royal, Halifax.
Babes in the Wood (Ventom Swift).—Feb. 9, T. R., Barry; 16, Emp., Tonypandy.
Baynton (Henry) Shakespeare Co.—Feb. 9, Pal., Westcliff; 16, T.R., King's Lynn.
Betty.—Feb. 9, Reading; 16, Guildford.
Betty at Bay.—Feb. 9, Royalty, Chester.
Billeted.—Feb. 9, Grand, Luton; 16, County, Bedford.
Bird of Paradise.—Feb. 9, T.R., Portsmouth; 16, Court, Liverpool.
Boy, The.—Feb. 9, Paisley; 16, Paisley.
Brewster's Millions.—Feb. 9, Art., Woolwich; 16 T.R., Norwich.
Bubbly.—Feb. 9, T.R., Halifax; 16, Huddersfield.
Butterfly on the Wheel.—Feb. 9, O.H., Kidderminster; 16, T.R., Castleford.
Cæsar's Wife.—Feb. 9, O.H., Northampton; 16, T.R., Brighton.
Camfield and Beaupaire Rep. Co.—Feb. 9, T.H., Montgomery; 16, Town Hall, Welshpool.
Cash on Delivery.—Feb. 16, Tottenham.
Charley's Aunt.—Feb. 5, New, Oxford; 16, Wimbledon Th., S.W.
Chinese Puzzle.—Feb. 9, T.R., Guildford; 16, Grand, Luton.
Chu Chin Chow.—Feb. 9, H.M., Aberdeen; 16, H.M., Aberdeen.
Chu Chin Chow (Red).—Feb. 9, Emp., West Hartlepool; 16, T.R., Huddersfield.
Cinderella (Buxton).—Feb. 9, Grand, Nottingham.
Cinderella (Jazon and Montgomery).—Feb. 9, Emp., Ashton-under-Lyne.
Cinderella Man (Butt).—Feb. 16, O.H., Cheltenham.
Curse of the Black Pearl.—Feb. 9, T.R., Middlesbrough; 16, G., Halifax.
Custody of the Child.—Feb. 9, Camb., Spennymoor; 16, T.R., Seaham Harbour.
Daddalums.—Feb. 9, O.H., Cheltenham; 16, W.G., New Brighton.
Daddies.—Feb. 9, O.H., Leicester; 16, Chester.
Daddy Long Legs.—Feb. 9, Alh., Stirling; 16, T.R., Inverness.
Discharged with Honour.—Feb. 9, Vic., West Stanley; 16, T.R., Scarborough.
Disgraced.—Feb. 9, Junction, Manchester; 16, Hip., Bilston.
Dobell (W. L.) Rep. Co.—Feb. 12, T.H., Enniskillen (3); 16, Pallidrome, Strabane.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.—Feb. 9, T.R., Bury; 16, T.R., Aston.
Eyes of Youth.—Feb. 9, Grand, Croydon.
Fair and Warmer (Macdonald and Young).—Feb. 9, Carlisle; 16, New Brighton.
Female Hun.—Feb. 9, T.R., Huddersfield; 16, T.R., Bolton.
Five Nights.—Feb. 9, Pal., Bordesley; 16, T.R., Wolverhampton.
Freedom of the Seas (Brasher).—Feb. 9, T.R., Inverness; 16, Grand, Falkirk.
Friend o' Mine.—Feb. 2, King's, Oswestry; 9, Rushden (3), Wellingboro' (3); 16, Hip. Burslem.
Full Steam Ahead.—Feb. 9, Hippo., Sheerness; 16, Hip., Loughborough.
General Post.—Feb. 9, T.R., Norwich; 16, Lyc., Ipswich.
Girl from Ciro's.—Feb. 9, Grand, Kidderminster; 16, T.R., Bath.
Going Up (Macdonald and Young).—Feb 9, Birkenhead; 16, Warrington.
Grumpy.—Feb. 9, Grand, Nelson.
Heart of a Thief.—Feb. 9, T.R., Macclesfield; 16, King's, Oswestry.
Hill-Mitchelson, E., Rep. Co.—Feb. 9, T.R., North Shields; 16, G., W. Hartlepool.
Hindle Wakes.—Feb. 9, Garr., Catterick; 16, Garr., Clipstone.
His Little Widows.—Feb. 9, T.R., Hanley; 16, Grand, Swansea.
His Little Widows (Macdonald & Young). Feb. 9, Wigan; 16, Birkenhead.
House That Jack Built (Levy and Cardwell).—Feb. 16, Aquarium, G. Yarmouth.
Howitt (E. C.) Rep. Co.—Feb. 9, Camb., Spennymoor; 16, T.R., Seaham Harbour.
Ignorance. Feb. 9, Grand, Stockton; 16, Vic., West Stanley.
Irish Players.—Feb. 16, Dublin.
Kiss Call (Butt).—Feb. 9, King's, Glasgow; 16, Prince's, Manchester.
La Poupée.—Feb. 9, O.H., Coventry; 16, O.H., Burton.
Lass of Dingley Moor.—Feb. 9, Barnstaple (3), Bridgwater (3); 16, New, Bargoed.
Law Divine (H. V. Esmond).—Feb. 9, T.R., Brighton; 16, Grand, Blackpool.
Lilac Domino (Butt).—Feb. 16, T.R., Portsmouth.
Lilac Domino (Macdonald and Young).—Feb. 9, Swansea; 16, Newport.
Little Bit of Fluff.—Feb. 9, T.R., Merthyr; 16, Pal., Gloucester.
Little Widow, The.—Feb. 9, Constitutional T., Littleport; 16, T.R., Loughborough.
Luck of the Navy (North).—Feb. 9, Abergavenny (3), Hereford (3); 16, Oldham.
Luck of the Navy (South).—Feb. 9, Windsor; 16, Folkestone.
Maid of the Mountains (Macdonald and Young).—Feb. 9, Dumfries and Workington; 16, Whitehaven and Kendal.
Maid of the Mountains (Macdonald and Young, South).—Feb. 9, Stourbridge; 16, Redditch.
Milestones (Platt and Eaton).—Feb. 9, T.R., Peterborough; 16, T.R., Chatham.
Mill Girl's Wedding.—Feb. 9, Barnstaple (3), Bridgwater (3); 16, New Hall, Bargoed.
Mother Goose (Ventom Swift).—Feb. 9, Hippo., Salford; 16, T.R., Merthyr.
My Aunt from New York.—Feb. 9, Barnstaple (3), Bridgwater (3); 16, New Hall, Bargoed.
Naughty Wife.—Feb. 9, T.R., Blackburn; 16, Hip., Golder's Green.
Nurse Benson.—Feb. 9, Memorial T., Stratford-on-Avon; 12, O.H., Buxton; 16, G., Leek (3).
Oh! Joy (A Co.).—Feb. 9, T.R., Plymouth; 16, Exeter.
O'Mara Opera Co.—Feb. 9, Gaiety, Dublin.
One Law for Both.—Feb. 9, Vivian Hall, Resolven; 16, Metropole, Glasgow.
Our Peg (George Edwardes).—Feb. 9, Lyc., Edinburgh; 16, King's, Glasgow.
Peg o' My Heart.—Feb. 9, Grimsby; 16, Rochdale.
Peg o' My Heart (Ralland and Cameron).—Feb. 9, Pal., Tynemouth; 16, Ashington.
Purple Mask (King and Clark).—Feb. 16, O.H., Northampton.
Quaker Girl.—Feb. 9, Olym., Tredegar.
Rave and Dare Rep.—Feb. 9 and 16, T.H., Fenny Stratford.
Ridding Opera Co.—Feb. 9, Hippo., Selby; 16, T.R., North Shields.
Right to Live.—Feb. 9, R., Macclesfield; 16, King's, Oswestry.
Roses of Picardy.—Feb. 9, Rushden (3), Wellingboro' (3); 16, Hip., Burslem.
Scandal.—Feb. 9, T.R., York.
Scarlet Pimpernel.—Feb. 9, O.H., Harrogate; 16, O.H., Scarborough.
Seven Days' Leave.—Feb. 9, Pal., Gloucester.
Sherlock Holmes.—Feb. 16, Junction, Manchester.
Sign of the Cross.—Feb. 16, West Pier, Brighton.
Soiled (N.).—Feb. 16, G., Doncaster.
Soiled (S.).—Feb. 9, P., Weymouth.
Soldier Boy (Macdonald and Young).—Feb. 9, Darlington; 16, York.
Southern Maid.—Feb. 9, T.R., Bolton; 16, Grand, Hull.
Stafford and Woodward Rep. Co.—Feb. 9, Garr., Ripon; 16, Garr., Catterick.
Temporary Gentleman.—Feb. 9, T.R., Aldershot; 16, T.R., Lincoln.
That Little Old Mother of Mine.—Feb. 9, T.R., Aston; 16, Crown, Eccles.
Three Weeks.—Feb. 9, R., Stockport; 16, R., Dewsbury.
Tilly of Bloomsbury.—Feb. 9, D.P., Eastbourne; 16, G., Wolverhampton.
Toto.—Feb. 9, New, Crewe.
Trilby.—Feb. 9, Grand, Wolverhampton; 16, O.H., Leicester.
Uncle Sam (Macdonald and Young).—Feb. 9, T.R., Torquay; 16, Southampton.
Unseen Hand.—Feb. 9, Empire, Porth; 16, Vic., Spennymoor.
Wagner and Scarden Rep. Co.—Feb. 9, Junc., Manchester; 16, Hip., Bilston.
Week-End, A.—Feb. 9, New, Salisbury; 16, T.R., Worcester.
What Every Woman Wants.—Feb. 9, T.R., W. Bromwich; 16, Emp., Aberdare.
Who's Hooper? (Butt).—Feb. 9, Lyc., Sheffield; 16, P.O.W., Birmingham.
Woman's Victory.—Feb. 9, Barnstaple (3), Bridgnorth (3).
Woman Who Lied.—Feb. 9, Emp., Mountain Ash; 16, T.R., West Bromwich.
Yellow Ticket.—Feb. 9, County, Bedford; 16, T.R., Bury.
Younger Generation.—Feb. 9, Garr., Catterick; 16, Garr., Clipstone.
Yes, Uncle.—Feb. 16, T.R., Hanley.
Yes, Uncle (Geo. Dance's South Co.).—Feb. 9, G., Lancaster; 16, Q., Barrow.

REVUES.

Buzz Buzz.—Feb. 9, O.H., Southport; 16, Pav., Glasgow.
Ching Ching.—Feb. 9, Arcadia, South Moor.
Far East.—Feb. 9, Penge; 16, Hip., Portsmouth.
Good Goods.—Feb. 9, Hip., Pontycymmer.
Heads or Tails.—Feb. 9, Pal., Halifax; 16, Alh., Barnsley.
Hullo! America.—Feb. 9, King's, Dundee.
Hullo, Baby.—Feb. 9, County, Shrewsbury; 16, T., Runcorn.
Hustle.—Feb. 9, Emp., Wood Green; 16, Emp., Hull.
Kissing Time.—Feb. 9, Court, Liverpool; 16, G., Derby.
Lads of the Village.—Feb. 9, Pal., Walthamstow; 16, Metropolitan, W.
Moonstruck.—Feb. 9, Pal., Bath; 16, Pal., Leicester.
Mumming Birds.—Feb. 16, Olym., Shoreditch.
My Son Sammy.—Feb. 9, O.H., Burton-on-Trent; 16, G., Hanley.
Nights of Gladness.—Feb. 9, The Euston; 16, Pal., Chelsea.

"THE ERA" LETTER BOX.

[*Will Managers kindly send in their Tour Lists for insertion in "On the Road" by Tuesday morning in each week.*]

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Tetrazzini, Madame
Teyte, Miss M.
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Thonil, Miss Ivy
Thorndyke, Miss Sybil
Thorne, Mr. E.
Tindell, Miss Ivy
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Odds On.—Feb. 9, Emp., Sunderland; 16, Emp., South Shields.
Oh, Betsy.—Feb. 16, Pav., Southport.
On the Wing.—Feb. 9, Emp., Hackney; 16, Hip., Poplar.
Redheads.—Feb. 9, Hip., Nuneaton; 16, Hip., Kettering.
Red Moon.—Feb. 9, Pal., Grimsby; 16, Hip., Derby.
Revels.—Feb. 9, Hip., Liverpool; 16, Emp., Shepherd's Bush.
Same to You.—Feb. 9, Pal., Hull; 16, King's, Southsea.
Splinters.—Feb. 9, P.G., Folkestone; 16, G., Accrington.
Sweet Fanny Adams.—Feb. 9, Vic., Walthamstow; 16, Emp., Burnley.
Tip-Top.—Feb. 9, Hip., Belfast.
What Next?—Feb. 9, E., Kingston; 15, Hip., Northampton.

Mr. William Daunt has been engaged by Miss Ethel Irving for the port of the Vicomte de Trevilhac in her production of "La Tosca."

Miss Altona Stafford has been engaged by Messrs. Holles Norman, and Zeitlin for the part of Amy in "Little Women."

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After Dinner one night last week a discussion arose as to the value of advertising. One man said he couldn't name a single thing he had ever bought deliberately as a result of reading an advertisement; but he agreed that their cumulative effect probably affected his purchases. "Certainly," he said, "the theatres keep their houses full by constantly reminding the public of what is on at their houses, and I suppose they find it pays."

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"THE ERA" FILM SECTION

TOPICS OF THE TRADE.

CINEMA AS TEMPERANCE REFORMER.

SAFEGUARDING THE PUBLIC.

We notice that Mr. F. N. Charrington—best known to fame as the man who renounced his heritage as a prospective millionaire in order to become a worker in the cause of temperance—has been saying some very unkind things about the cinema. Listen to this, as reported, last Thursday, in the "Daily News":—"The great evil now was the cinema, which had slain tens of thousands where the public-houses had slain thousands, and which drew thousands every Sunday from the churches into these dark places of sin and evil."

Of course, we expect temperance reformers to be intemperate—even those who have *not* the satisfaction of being able to inform everybody that their devotion to a life of rectitude has cost them a million pounds occasionally give way to excess in this manner. But we hardly, if they are sincere, expect them to be selfish. We do not know what sized hat our sacrificing friend wears, but it seems apparent that he is intolerant of any rival in the field—at least, any successful rival. And yet, to adopt his own form of comparison, it is safe to say that if he has been the means of keeping thousands of people free from the influence of the public-house, the cinema has so safeguarded tens of thousands. This fact must be obvious to every observant man, but if any direct proof were needed, it can be found in the official reports of Chief Constables, from every part of the country, which definitely state that the vast decrease in recent years of drunkenness is due to the fact that the working classes now prefer to spend their Saturday evenings at the "pictures." Among the most interesting of these reports have been those of the Chief Constables of Aberdeen, Newark, and Merthyr. The last-named even stated that since picture shows had been opened on Sundays the streets had become more orderly, and that, in consequence, it had been possible to reduce by half the number of constables on duty in the principal streets!

REFORMING REFORMERS.

What answer has our positive friend to facts such as these? The recklessness of his abuse will be quite sufficient to expose the weakness of his attack to most persons, but, nevertheless, there will be a good many people who will resent his unwarrantable attack upon the legitimate and harmless recreation of the working classes. For that reason we have condescended to make reply, and, to prove that we are not against true reformers, we wish to suggest to any other philanthropic millionaire who may be thinking of sacrificing his riches in order to devote all his time to improving an unregenerate world, that he should specialise in reforming reformers, and should teach them to be unbigoted, tolerant, and charitable in mind!

MR. EDWARD GODAL'S RETURN.

BRITISH v. AMERICAN FILMS.

A dinner was given on Thursday evening at Oddenino's Imperial Restaurant, Regent-street, by the B. & C. Kinematograph Co., to welcome Mr. Edward Godal's return home from the United States. Mr. Nigel d'A. Black-Hawkins (director) presided over a large and representative gathering. The chairman, in proposing the toast of the guest of the evening, said that the trip of their managing director to the States was not only for the benefit of the B. & C., but for that of the film industry generally in this country. Closely associated as he had been with Mr. Godal, he knew as a positive fact that that gentleman was animated by a generous and truly patriotic spirit.

The toast was received with enthusiasm.

Mr. Godal, in reply, said that when he went to America some months ago, he went in a very diffident mood, as his experience in the past had proved to him that he had a difficult task before him. It was said there existed in America a plan to strangle British productions because they feared that we might one day beat them. But facts spoke for themselves, and he had returned home, having sold every film he took out with him and at record prices. He had also the pleasure of seeing one of the company's own films produced before a crowded house. An inference could be drawn from these facts, and he thought they might be able to refute certain ideas and opinions which had been expressed in the past, and which would do irreparable harm unless they were proved to be wrong. He would remind them that the film industry in America was the fifth largest in that country, and from it there was an enormous revenue. There were 20,000 picture theatres, as against between three and four thousand in this country; and while a British firm could only afford to spend £10,000 on a picture, an American firm would spend from £20,000 to £50,000, or more, and which could be booked for some £500,000 in America and Canada only. It had been stated that the Americans were prejudiced against British pictures, but he did not agree with that. The reason the American firms had refused our pictures was simply they were inferior to their own. The view-point of the present-day American was how to make one dollar into two, two dollars into four, and four into a million. It did not matter to him whether the goods came from Great Britain or Timbuctoo, so long as he got what he wanted. It was necessary, he thought, for the film industry in this country to reorganise; to get better equipment, and the best talent, irrespective of nationality. The Americans would buy our goods if they found they were equal to their own. Our object, therefore, should be to spend as much money as possible on each production, so as to make it as perfect as possible, and then alter it to suit the requirements of any particular market

Other toasts followed.

ROUND ABOUT FILMLAND.

Arrived by Aeroplane—Broadwest's Immediate Programme—"The Last Rose of Summer."

"The Call of the Blood."

The first copy of Mr. Louis Mercanton's film, the screen version of Robert Hichen's novel, "The Call of the Blood," arrived in London from Paris by aeroplane last Friday, when an informal show was held, that the principal actors, Miss Phyllis Neilson Terry and Mr. Ivor Novello, might see themselves as others will see them. Among those present who expressed themselves highly delighted with the picture were Lady Jane Keeney-Herbert, the Hon. Mrs. Fitz Allan Howard, Miss Julia Neilson, Miss Olga Lynn, Lord Lathom, and a representative from the French Consulate.

Future Broadwest Productions.

Patrick L. Mannock, the Broadwest scenario editor, who is responsible for the Nat Gould adaptation, "A Dead Certainty" (which film is now nearing completion), tells us that among the many well-known subjects which form the immediate production programme of this well-known British firm are the following: "A Rank Outsider," by Nat Gould; "The Case of Lady Camber," by H. A. Vachell; and "The Great Gay Road," by the late Tom Gallon, and "The World's Best Girl," which is based on the "Evening News" serial published last year. The scenario for the production has been specially written by Bertram Brown, who was also responsible for the story of "In the Gloaming," which is to be released next month.

"Her Benny."

A crowded trade show is anticipated when Granger's screen "Her Benny" for the first time at the West End Cinema to-day. The first story to be filmed of the works of Silas K. Hocking, the popular author, has not only taken a personal interest in the production, he actually appears in the opening pictures of the play. "Her Benny" is remarkable for the clever pictures that A. V. Bramble, the producer, has made of scenes in Liverpool, in which city the story is centred. As usual, a Granger "Marvel" will precede the screening of the feature.

Granger's Next Trade Show.

The next London trade show of Granger's will be held at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Feb. 25 at 11. The picture will be the Samuelson play, "The Last Rose of Summer," from the novel by Hugh Conway, with scenario by Roland Pertwee. Owen Nares, Minna Grey, and Daisy Burrell are in the cast. Grangers ask exhibitors to be early in their seats, as they will show on this occasion a Granger Marvel of more than ordinary interest and beauty.

Robert Ganthony.

Robert Ganthony is busy just now writing for the screen. He has completed six plays for the Ideal Film Co., and is working on his comedy, "A Rectory Scandal," for the Lasky British Film Productions.

Gaumont.

"British Screencraft Productions" are just completing their second picture, which we understand is to be called "Walls of Prejudice." The story is adapted from the play, "Break Down the Walls," written by Mrs. Alexander Grosman. Miss Josephine Earle will play the leading part, but she is being cast in an entirely different rôle from that which she portrayed in "The Fall of a Saint." Mr. Dallas Anderson is the leading man, and the cast includes Pat Somerset, Cecil Du Gué, and Zoe Palmer, who won a prize in the impersonation contest at the Cinema Gymkhana last year.

"The Black Secret."

Pearl White will be seen in some episodes of "The Black Secret" at the London Pavilion to-day. The interesting serial adapted from Robert W. Chambers' novel, "In Secret," is at present running in America, and showing to some of the largest audiences ever seen in cinema theatres. Its release date in this country is fixed for Sept. 20, when it will follow that sensational serial, "The Great Gamble."

We hear that the collection made at the trade show of "The Fall of a Saint" at the Alhambra, on behalf of St. Bartholomew's appeal for funds, amounted to nearly £13s. The Plymouth trade shows which the Gaumont Co. have been giving are much appreciated by exhibitors in the South-west of England, and some good attendances are recorded. Exhibitors in the south-west were very pleased with the trade show of "The Fall of a Saint," which was screened to them last week.

CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITORS' ASSOCIATION.

SCOTTISH BRANCH.

A special meeting of the Scottish branch of the C.E.A. was held in the Central Halls, Bath-street, Glasgow, last week to consider the proposed terms of the agreement between that Association and the Operators' Section of the N.A.T.E., when the result of the discussion was the unanimous adoption of the agreement as printed and circulated among the members. In the unavoidable absence of the president (Councillor R. C. Buchanan) the meeting was presided over by the vice-president, Mr. Matthew Waddell.

Operators' Wages.

The proposed agreement was to the effect that wages and conditions of employment should be settled by a Conciliation Board consisting of twelve members (six appointed by the C.E.A., and six appointed by the N.A.T.E.), with the secretaries of both Associations acting as ex-officio members; that the minimum wage for operators in the district covered should be at the rate of £3 5s. per week, with occasional shows, namely, shows opening on less than six nights in the week, to be paid at the rate of 6s. 8d. per week; that an immediate increase of 5s. per week should be granted to all chief operators at present receiving £3 5s. or more per week, but that no increase should be expected which would bring the wages above £5 per week; that second operators should be paid at the rate of three-fourths of chief's wages in continuous shows, and two-thirds of chief's wages in other shows; that the rate reached under the above clause should constitute the minimum rate for each hall, and should not be reduced except by consent of the Board; that Sunday work, not coming within the ordinary routine of an operator's employment, should be paid at the rate of double time, based on a log week (for calculation purposes) of 44 hours; that in individual cases in which it was considered that this general agreement would press hardly, each case should be considered on its merits by the Conciliation Board, and that the terms for such cases should be decided by the Board. It was also suggested that this agreement should come into force from the week commencing Monday, Feb. 9, and that it should remain in force for a period of six months, and might then be terminated by three months' notice from either side.

Mr. J. J. Bennell moved that the recommendations as printed should be homologated by the C.E.A. In doing so Mr. Bennell said he knew the great amount of hard work and effort which the committee had put into this matter, and he thought they had produced a scheme which was fairly workable and equitable to all the parties concerned. On the whole, therefore, he thought that the scheme should commend itself to them as exhibitors, and it was important to note that one of the clauses authorised special consideration being given by the Conciliation Board in any individual cases where it was considered that the general arrangement might press hardly. Mr. Gilchrist seconded this motion, and it was agreed to unanimously.

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TRADE SHOWS OF THE WEEK.

By "THE ERA" SPECIAL REVIEWERS.

"MAKING HER HIS WIFE."

"ABSENCE MAKES THE HEART GROW FONDER."

Production ..... Phœnix
Type ..... Comedy-Drama
Star ..... Vivian Martin
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... Gaumonts

"Making Her His Wife" is a delightfully humorous comedy-drama, full of happy little domestic touches, with subtitles of the cleverest order. Pretty and vivacious Vivian Martin has an ideal rôle in Olive, a spoilt product of New York society life. A motor accident is the means of introducing the butterfly to John Arms, a man's man, and owner of a village store in lonely Nahalla. Olive is greatly attracted; John even more so; and after a passionate declaration of love he produces a marriage licence and bears her away to help his mother in their large but dilapidated house. John's desire to domesticate Olive brings grief in its train, and after many quarrels the unhappy little wife returns home. But gone is the enjoyment of the useless society life, and when John, who has made his pile, comes to claim his property, he finds not only a wife, but a real helpmate.

* * *

"THE LOVE CHEAT."

CUPID MAKES FORTUNE-HUNTER OF INFATUATED YOUNG MAN.

Production ..... Pathé
Type ..... Comedy-Drama
Stars..Creighton Hale and June Caprice
Length ..... Five Reels

Comedy dramas of this description are always welcome, for they bring sunshine in their wake. Creighton Hale and June Caprice are charmingly natural, and their acting is responsible for both smiles and tears. Henry Calvin, a poor furniture dealer, wanders uninvited into a private ball given at an hotel, and meets Louise Gordon, the lovely daughter of a millionaire. It is a case of love at first sight, and when Henry's friend promises to finance him in view of his becoming an heiress's husband, Cupid's victim agrees to the proposition. His desire to be near Louise blinds Henry to the fact that he is playing a decidedly shady game, but he realises his deception to the full on the eve of the engagement dinner. There is only one way out—to disappear—and so Louise is left with a breaking heart, but undoubted trust in her lover. Eventually she traces his whereabouts, and after Henry's friend has explained his little share in the duplicity, the millionaire agrees to the marriage.

* * *

"ROUGH-RIDING ROMANCE."

PRINCESS'S REWARD FOR HEROIC COWBOY.

Production ..... William Fox
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Tom Mix
Length ..... Five Reels

"Rough-Riding Romance" has a fairy tale plot, into which are introduced the most amazing of stunts. Romantically told, the film is both dramatic and whimsical, while Tom Mix does many marvellous things to ensure the happiness of his beautiful Princess. The latter is being forced, through fear for her father's safety, into marrying Pietro, an unworthy rascal, receiving assistance in a time of distress from Phineas Dobbs, a get-rich-quick ranchman. The Princess tells of her plight, and Phineas promises to follow her to San Francisco. With a total disregard of danger he rides his horse into the palace, and, after a terrific struggle, rescues his lady, and, incidentally, her father. Feeling that his love is hopeless, Phineas returns to the West, where, to ensure the correct fairy tale ending, the Princess finally joins him.

* * *

"HIS BROTHER'S DESTINY."

CRIME EFFECTS A RECONCILIATION BETWEEN LONG-PARTED BROTHERS.

Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Sansonia
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... Walkers

"His Brother's Destiny," in addition to possessing a strong plot, has also a number of startling thrills, for which the star, Sansonia, is responsible. Lucian and David, the dearly-loved twins of a united couple, are torn apart in boyhood, by the hand of an enemy. Years later Lucian becomes a noted journalist, while David haunts the hiding-places of crooks. David becomes friendly with Curzon, an inventor, who is constantly worried by various attempts to steal his latest work. The astute journalist outwits many of the scoundrels' infamous designs, but when David sets out to cause his brother's death fate effects a reunion of the long-parted twins. David pays the penalty of his crimes with death, Lucian reaping his reward in the right woman's love.

* * *

"DESIRE."

DISCONTENT BRINGS DEATH IN ITS WAKE.

Production ..... B. and C.
Type ..... Drama
Stars ..... Dennis Neilson-Terry and Yvonne Arnaud
Length ..... Five Reels

"Desire," a difficult subject to film, has been cleverly handled by B. and C., who, aided by Dennis Neilson-Terry, a forceful and sympathetic actor, successfully present a quite out-of-the-ordinary British production. Raphael Valentine, a struggling author, falls desperately in love with Feodora, a beautiful but heartless woman of the world. Feodora accepts his attentions till, his last penny gone, Raphael receives his congé. While contemplating suicide he enters an antique shop, the owner of which offers him a talisman capable of fulfilling the owner's every wish. Raphael enters upon a life of luxury, day by day becoming more of an invalid. Gradually he learns to fear his very thoughts, in case he should voice by accident a desire for any particular object. Finally, when love is within his grasp, death claims him. But Raphael Valentine had but dreamt his awful end, and a return to consciousness brings with it a promise of fame and love.

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"THE ERA" FILM SECTION

"THE FALL OF A SAINT."

PHILANTHROPIST CAUGHT IN WEB OF PASSION.

Production ..... Gaumonts
Type ..... Drama
Stars..Gerald Lawrence, Josephine Earle
Length ..... Six Reels

An excellent production from every viewpoint, "The Fall of a Saint" is a distinct credit to its producers, and with its convincing acting, beautiful settings, and brilliant photography should receive a warm welcome from the public. Josephine Earle, wearing many handsome gowns, gives a very fine portrayal of a vampire rôle, and as the saint Mr. Gerald Lawrence plays a difficult rôle cleverly. Luxury is the keynote of most of the scenes, the café in particular thoroughly realising the atmosphere of gaiety natural to such resorts.

* * *

"THE BETTER WIFE."

MEMORY OF UNFAITHFUL WOMAN DRIVES LOVE FROM MAN'S HEART.

Production ..... Select
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Clara Kimball Young
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... Walturdaws

A film with beautiful scenes and some extremely fine photography, "The Better Wife" will undoubtedly be enthusiastically received. Clara Kimball Young is excellent as Charmian Page, a beautiful American, who, while staying with friends in England, loses her heart to Sir Richard Beverly, a loving husband and proud father. Lady Beverly, a dishonourable flirt, manages to deceive her husband till death closes her eyes, when Sir Richard is left with Little Dick and an unspoilt memory of his dead wife. Charmian nurses the boy through a long illness, during which time she attracts the father's attention. Later, only because of the boy, and with no love to offer, Sir Richard asks Charmian to become his wife, and she accepts him, learning the truth when it is too late. Although, realising that the memory of his dead wife is responsible for Sir Richard's coldness, Charmian keeps silent, but eventually the truth is revealed, and the disillusioned man sees at last that he has in his home "The Better Wife."

* * *

"LOST MONEY."

FATHER'S WEAK WILL NEARLY WRECKS DAUGHTER'S LIFE.

Production ..... William Fox
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Madlaine Traverse
Length ..... Five Reels

Adventure and romance are to be found in "Lost Money," another triumph for Fox, and also, we must add, for Madlaine Traverse, the star. An exile from England through financial reasons, Graham Atherstone settles in South Africa, and endeavours, for his daughter's sake, to recoup his fortune. Judith, unaware of her father's position, becomes interested in Ox Lanyon, a wealthy diamond king, who, when called upon to rescue friends from the jungle, entrusts Atherstone with his property. Pressed for ready money, the latter is tempted by his secretary to use his friend's wealth, and when Lanyon returns and demands his fortune he learns that the result of years of toil is practically nil. In a frenzied rage he kidnaps Judith in payment, and after months of torture the two discover a rich mine. Judith, by now a domesticated helpmate, is eventually taken home to her father, who is having trouble with his black employees. A fierce revolt takes place, and Lanyon arrives just in time to rescue Judith and take her back to a life of happiness.

"THE CIGARETTE"

ELDERLY HUSBAND'S SUSPICION OF YOUNG WIFE SHOWN TO BE UNFOUNDED.

Controllers ..Granger's Exclusives, Ltd.
Stars .....Mlle. Andrée Brabant and Mons. Signoret
Type .....Drama
Length .....Five Parts

Denise, a charming young woman, married to a man many years her senior, and debarred from much of his society owing to his studious habits, forms a friendship for a young athlete, Maurice Herbert, and thus incurs the jealousy, but not the anger, of her husband. Denise is, however, a faithful wife, and is deeply pained at her husband's unfounded suspicions. When, by accident, she discovers that he has intended to take his life by means of a poisoned cigarette (which he places among several others, with the object of not knowing exactly when the fatal time will come), she secretly destroys them all, and substitutes others. How the jealous man is eventually reassured as to his wife's innocence and her affection for him is interestingly narrated, the acting, especially in the latter scenes, being very convincing and natural. The scenery, both interior and out-of-doors, is very beautiful.

* * *

"THE AUCTION MART."

CYNICAL FATHER'S MISGUIDED ADVICE TO HIS DAUGHTER AND ITS SEQUAL.

Production ..... British Actors
Stars .. Gertrude McCoy and Chas. Quartermaine
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Five Parts
Controllers ..... Phillips

This is an engrossing story of the experiences of a handsome girl named Jacqueline, the daughter of a cynical father, who had imbued her with the idea that the one thing that mattered was to sell to the highest bidder even the most precious of possessions. Jacqueline, goodhearted but wilful, in putting her father's teaching into practice, almost brings about both her own and her parent's ruin. Owing to the chivalry of the male friends with whom she is brought into contact, and aided by her own goodness, Jacqueline escapes unscathed from the gravest dangers. The girl's emancipation from the pernicious doctrine she had inculcated is very skilfully depicted by the actress, who scored a personal triumph. Mr. Chas. Quartermaine gives a polished and convincing study of the worldly father, and is excellently supported by a fine cast. An enthusiastic reception was accorded the production.

[See our Film Markings.]

* * *

THE TEXAS GUINAN SERIES.

PLEASING WILD WEST DRAMAS.

Controller ..... Butcher
Star ..... Texas Guinan
Type ..... Twelve Two-reel Episodes

A number of two-reel dramas, featuring the intrepid young screen actress, Texas Guinan, were shown on Wednesday last. The series is of the type known as "Western," and portray Miss Guinan in the complex rôle of a young woman who, thrown among a mixed and primitive crowd of men, yet knows how to hold her own with the best or worst, as the case may be. She is lion-hearted and courageous when occasion demands, yet endowed with the sweetest of feminine graces when she at length meets the right man. The episodes are full of punch and movement, are well acted, and should prove a paying proposition.

On the same occasion were shown a number of highly instructive

"MOVIE CHATS,"

which, illustrating various subjects of interest—natural history, animal life, and stupendous feats of engineering, for example—are explained in an intimate and personal manner on the screen in conversational style, so tersely worded and plainly expressed as to render them most entertaining. These films are of the highest educational value and should be seen by people of all ages. Mr. Charles Urban is the able producer.

* * *

"SHOULD A HUSBAND FORGIVE?"

FATHER'S HARSHNESS DEPRIVES SON OF MOTHER'S LOVE.

Production ..... William Fox
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Miriam Cooper
Length ..... Five Reels

"Should a Husband Forgive?" has a well-staged boxing match, and one of the finest horse races ever screened. Rex Burleigh, millionaire-sportsman, becomes interested in Ruth, the beautiful daughter of his trainer. On the latter's death Burleigh offers to finance the penniless girl, and Ruth, believing that his interest is purely paternal, takes up her abode in a luxurious flat. John Carroll, meeting the girl by an accident, falls in love, much to the annoyance of Kid Dugan, a childhood admirer. In an endeavour to break Carroll, the millionaire stages a faked fight between Dugan and a negro. While Carroll loses his money the true character of Burleigh is revealed to Ruth for the first time. Repenting of his crooked act Dugan visits Ruth, and, realising the millionaire's intentions, shoots him dead. Later Carroll marries Ruth, who is afraid to mention her unfortunate past. John's mother, a victim of her husband's unforgiving nature, is persuading the young wife to confide in her husband when Carroll overhears the conversation. He leaves the house, and devotes his energy to winning the forthcoming race. Ruth learn of a rival's plot, and by riding the favourite saves her husband from ruin. Explanations follow, and a happy ending is secured.

* * *

"THE THINGS MEN DO."

WOMAN'S TERRIBLE ORDEAL.

Production ..... V.I.C.
Type ..... Drama
Stars .. Albert Capozzi and Bianca Bellincioni
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... L.I.F.T.

Louisa Coleto is the beautiful daughter of a wealthy Count. Among the girl's many admirers, Fabian Leon is by far the most dangerous, and Antony Delargo, poet and dreamer, views with an aching heart his divinity's friendship with the other man. Fabian's increasing passion results in his death by accident in Louisa's bedroom. Forced to attend a reception, she implores Antony's aid, the latter disposing of the dead man by throwing him into the river. The shock renders the poet insane, and in an endeavour to forget her part in the tragedy, Louisa marries Dr. Casati, a famous brain specialist. Through an overheard conversation Casati's suspicions as to his wife's past are aroused, and by a plan he brings about the return of Antony's sanity. Thus the truth comes to light, and after everything has been cleared up husband and wife are re-united.

* * *

"ANNA THE ADVENTURESS."

TRAGEDY OF IMPERSONATION.

Production ..... Hepworth
Type ..... Drama
Stars .... Alma Taylor, Gerald Ames
Length ..... Five Reels

It is not often that a screen version of a famous novel is so successful as that of "Anna the Adventuress," shown by Messrs. Hepworth at the West-End Cinema on Tuesday, the 3rd. Based on E. Phillips Oppenheim's story, it has a dual rôle, the twin sisters Anna and Annabel Pelissier. One is a notorious dancer, the other a hard-working art student. Annabel, known to all Paris as "Alcide," makes the mistake of secretly marrying a tourist, Montague Hill, who has posed as Mersey Hill, the millionaire. A motor accident apparently sets her free, and she is befriended by Sir John Ferringhal, attracted by her beauty, and under the impression that she is Anna. Wishing to get her away from the care of her notorious sister, he helps her to get to England, and eventually marries her. Meanwhile Anna also comes to London, and, unable to get employment, obtains a contract on the music halls, where she sings as Alcide, forced by her likeness to make use of her sister's fame. Many complications arise by the impersonation, especially as Montague Hill did not die, and returns to search for his wife. Finally Annabel, driven at last to kill Montague Hill, confesses the whole truth to her husband, and dies in his arms. The production is a very praiseworthy one, especially fine being the wonderful acting of Alma Taylor in the dual rôle, her appearance as the twin sisters at one and the same time on the screen making it one of the most realistic and artistic pieces of work that she has ever done. She has splendid support also from Gerald Ames, James Carew, and Miss Gwynne Herbert.

[See our Film Markings.]

* * *

"INTO TEMPTATION."

DREAM TRAGEDY THAT MIGHT HAVE COME TRUE.

Production..Triumph Film Corporation, America
Type .....Melodrama
Star .....Alma Hanlon
Length .....Six Reels
Distributors .....Artistic Films, Ltd.
Release .....Jan. 24

"Into Temptation," screened for Artistic Films, Ltd., at the West End Cinema on Tuesday, in addition to being good melodrama, has a good moral lesson, brought home with grim realism. The heroine, Elsie Corwin, is a young girl, innocent and lovely, the sole support of her widowed mother. She is engaged to marry her childhood's sweetheart, Bob Davies, a young architect. Tempted by her shop companions, she makes the acquaintance of a society libertine, Jim Mills. By means of his wealth and attentions, Mills fascinates the girl, and at last persuades her to meet him that evening, promising to 'phone her the time. Meanwhile, at Elsie's home, her mother, sweetheart, and friends have prepared a surprise party to celebrate her betrothal to Bob. But Elsie apparently decides to throw in her lot with Mills, and the subsequent situations are fraught with grim tragedy. Mills proves to be a well-known swindler, and is arrested by the police. Elsie finds herself betrayed and deserted, her mother dies of a broken heart, and the girl sinks from bad to worse, and finally in an attempt to escape from the police, throws herself into the river. As she does so, the scene changes, and Elsie is found sleeping in her room. The intervening minutes have been but a dream, and the girl, now thoroughly alive as to what might have happened to her, runs to where her young lover awaits her. Alma Hanlon acts with rare charm and sympathy as the heroine, and a strong cast supports her. The photography is excellent.

* * *

"THE CRUISE OF THE MAKE-BELIEVES."

TOM GALLON'S NOVEL A SUCCESS AS A SCREEN STORY.

Production ..... Renter's
Star ..... Lila Lee
Type ..... Drama

One of the best novels of the late Tom Gallon, "The Cruise of the Make-Believes," has been cleverly adapted for the screen, and has served the purpose of introducing Miss Lila Lee to the public as a cinema star. She plays the part of Bessie Meggison, a sixteen-year-old girl who tries to brighten a rather drab existence in the tenement district of New York by imaginary voyages to distant beautiful countries, the illusion being supported by a make-believe ship she has rigged up in the backyard. Her favourite day dream is converted into reality by the intervention of Gilbert Byfield, a wealthy young man, who becomes acquainted with the young girl, and sends her to his charming country home, she being told that her reprobate old father has, through a lucky speculation, been able to purchase the place. In due course Bessie learns the truth, as she was bound to do sooner or later, and her happiness is renewed when Byfield declares his love for her. Miss Lila Lee represents the young heroine of a pretty story with a charm of manner that promises further success in the series of film pictures in which she is announced to appear.

* * *

"A SON OF DAVID."

TATTOO SIGN BRINGS DISASTER TO BOXER.

Production ..... Broadwest
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Poppy Wyndham
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... Walturdaws

"A Son of David" has an interesting story, with acting and photography of a high order of excellence. Louis Raphael, a loved Rabbi of the East End, is happy in the companionship of Esther, his small daughter. The latter's little sweetheart, Maurice Phillips, loses his father through a secret attack by Sam Myers, a penniless boxer, who, in an endeavour to rob the old jeweller, causes his death by reason of the latter's weak heart. Maurice's one clue to his father's murderer is that he has tattooed on his arm the shield of David, and the son resolves to solve the mystery. Years later Maurice, a famous boxer, meets Esther, and the two become engaged. Sam, now in America, has also taken up the ring, and a contest is arranged between the champions. Maurice, owing to love troubles, is making a poor show, when he notices the shield of David on his opponent's arm. That settles matters, and in a few moments he wins the match. Afterwards Sam explains the unfortunate nature of Maurice's father's death, and by Esther's wish the two men shake hands.

* * *

"DAMAGED GOODS."

The W. & F. Film Service, who have acquired the sole world's rights to the film version of Brieux's poignant and dramatic play, gave the first public presentation at the Picture House, Oxford-street, on Monday last. This all-British Samuelson production, which arrests attention from start to finish, and deals with a difficult subject in a most masterly and delicate manner, can effect nothing but good wherever shown. The fine vivid portrayal of the doctor by Mr. J. Fisher White, Mr. Campbell Gullam's restrained and dramatic acting as the husband, and Miss Joan Vivian Rees' realistic study as the girl, are prominent features in a film which has received eulogies from Father Bernard Vaughan, Charles Higham, M.P., James Siddon, M.P., and Sir Robert Peacock, Chief Constable of Manchester, amongst others.

FILM PRODUCER'S SLANDER ACTION

In the action in which Mr. Thomas Bentley, a cinematograph film producer, sued Mr. H. J. Boam, the British Actors' Film Co., Ltd., and the Phillips Film Co., Ltd., for damages for slander, heard by the Lord Chief Justice and a special jury, in the King's Bench Division, the jury awarded the plaintiff £350, and judgment was given accordingly. At the hearing on Wednesday, in answer to a question by his lordship, it was stated that the case against the defendants other than Mr. Boam was not being proceeded with, and that, accordingly, the issue was confined to the allegation of slander against Mr. Boam, the managing director of the Phillips Film Co.

Mr. Gordon James was the unseen vocalist who gave such a delightful and heartily applauded rendering of "The Fairy Tales of Ireland" at the trade show by the Welsh-Pearson Co. of the film, "Garryowen," on Friday, Jan. 30, at the Alhambra.

FORTHCOMING TRADE SHOWS.

LONDON.

A Merry Madcap (Anchor), Shaftesbury Pav., 11.30, Feb. 11.
Her Benny (Granger), West End, 11, Feb. 11.
The Black Secret (Pathé), London Pav., 2.30, Feb. 11.
Ashes of Love (Anima), West End, 11.15, Feb. 12.
London Pride (Jury), Own Theatre, 10 and 3, Feb. 12.
Whom God Hath Joined Together (Gaumont), Shaftesbury Pav., 11, Feb. 12.
London Pride (Jury), Own Theatre, 10 and 3, Feb. 13.
The Grey Towers Mystery (Vitagraph), West End, 11, Feb. 13.
A Soul in Trust, Pawnbroker's Heart (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, Feb. 13.
A Soul in Trust, Pawnbroker's Heart (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 2.30, Feb. 12.
A Daughter of the Wolf (Renters), West End, 11.15, Feb. 19.

BIRMINGHAM.

Lightning Bryce (Serial) (F.B.O.), Futurist, 11, Feb. 11.
Should a Husband Forgive? (Fox), Newstreet P.H.), 11, Feb. 11.
The Cigarette (Granger), Scala, 11.15, Feb. 11.
The Knock-Out Blow (F.-Lasky), Scala, 11, Feb. 13.
Upstairs (Stoll), Futurist, Feb. 13.
The Black Secret (Pathé), 303, Broadstreet, 11 and 2.30, Feb. 13.
A Soul in Trust, Pawnbroker's Heart (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 7, Feb. 15.
Whom God Hath Joined Together (Gaumont), Futurist, 11, Feb. 16.

DUBLIN.

Checkers (Fox), Carlton, 11, Feb. 11.
Fool's Gold, Jack the Handy Man (Stoll), 2, Burgh Quay, 3, Feb. 13.

GLASGOW.

Market of Souls, Splendid Romance (F.-Lasky), Cinema House, 11, Feb. 11.
Borderland of Civilisation (Famous Productions), New Savoy, 11, Feb. 11.
Only Her Husband (L.I.F.T.), Cranston's, 11, Feb. 11.
Impossible Catherine (Pathé), 80, Millarstreet, 11, Feb 13.
Cassidy, Americano (West. Imp.), 182, Trongate, 2.30, Feb. 13.
Snow in the Desert (Walturdaw), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, Feb. 13.
Joy (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, Feb. 17, 18, and 19.

LEEDS.

The Gamblers, Rathskeller and the Rose (Vitagraph), Cinema Ex., 11, Feb. 11.
Lost Money (Fox), Cinema Ex., 11.40, Feb. 12.
The Forest on the Hill (Butcher), Cinema Ex., 11, Feb. 13.
Keith of the Border, Manhattan Madness (West. Imp.), Cinema Ex., 3.30, Feb. 13.
The Things Men Do (L.I.F.T.), Cinema Ex., 10.40, Feb. 13.
The Black Secret (Pathé), Cinema Ex., 10.40, Feb. 16.

LIVERPOOL.

Ghost Flower (West. Imp.), City P.H., 11, Feb. 11.
City of Purple Dreams (Gaumont), Scala, 11, Feb. 11.
City of Purple Dreams (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 2.30, Feb. 11.
Some Bride (Orion), City P.H., 11, Feb. 12.
Some Bride (Orion), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Feb. 12.
Story of the Rosary (B.E.F.), City P.H., 11.15, Feb. 12.
The Love Cheat (Pathé), 34, Paradise-street, 11 and 2.30, Feb. 13.
The Gamblers, Squabs and Squabbles (Vitagraph), Scala, 11, Feb. 13.
Sadie Love, The Knock-Out Blow (F.-Lasky), Scala, 11, Feb. 13.
The Open Door (Jury), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Feb. 13.

MANCHESTER.

The Love Cheat (Pathé), Deansgate P.H., 2.30, Feb. 11.
Making Her His Wife (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, Feb. 11.
Wolves of the Night (Fox), Oxford-street P.P., 11, Feb. 11.
The Things Men Do (L.I.F.T.), Deansgate P.H., 11, Feb. 11.
The Love Cheat (Pathé), Deansgate, 2.30, Feb. 12.
Ghost Flower, American Aristocracy (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 2.30, Feb. 12.
Pirates of the Air (Moss), Deansgate P.H., 11, Feb. 12.
Ghost Flower, American Aristocracy (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, Feb. 13.
Deuce Duncan, His Uncle Dudley (West. Imp.), Deansgate P.H., 11 and 2.30, Feb. 17.
Whom God Hath Joined Together (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, Feb. 17 and 18.

NEWCASTLE.

Cassidy, Americano (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 11, Feb. 11.
Lost Money (Fox), Stoll P.P., 11.15, Feb. 11.
Dare Devil Diana (Famous Films), New Pavilion, 11.15, Feb. 11.
Lady Noggs (Butcher), Queen's Hall, 11.15, Feb. 12.
Over the Garden Wall (Vitagraph), Queen's Hall, 11, Feb. 13.
Market of Souls, Splendid Romance (F.-Lasky), Granger P.T., 11, Feb. 13.
Heartsease (Stoll), Stoll P.P., 11, Feb. 13.
Snows of Destiny, A Day's Pleasure (West. Imp.), 26, Northumberland-street, 11, Feb. 17.

Palaseum, Commercial-road.

The Palaseum, Commercial-road, which is under the able co-management of Mr. H. Bostock and Miss G. Tanton, is putting on first-class picture programmes, a recent one including "The Romance of Tarzan," Charlie Chaplin in "The Count," "The Unknown," featuring Lon Tellegen, &c. The selections by the fine orchestra are an added attraction.

A New London Renter.

Frank Ellesmere, Ltd., have now opened offices in London at 5, Denmark-street, Charing Cross-road. They will shortly announce a trade show of the famous drama "The Fatal Wedding." This great feature will be followed each month by a famous stage success, a policy which will appeal to exhibitors in the United Kingdom and abroad.

FILM MARKINGS.

For the benefit of Exhibitors in London and the Provinces who are booking their programmes solely on our markings, we are in future giving further details. We would point out that the markings allotted to films in this section are given on their relative drawing power to showmen:—

Reference No. .. .. 6—10.
Suit high-class audience.....A | Suit sensational audience C
Suit average audience.....B | Suit any audience .....D

EXCLUSIVES.

Released.	Name.	Brand.	Description.	Feet.	Marks.	Suitability.
Notknown	The Barton Mystery ..	Stoll-British	Drama	6000	9	B
Feb. 9 ..	Pathé Pictorial .. .	Pathé	Drama	—	9¼	D
Feb. 9 ..	Gaumont Graphic	Gaumont	Interest	—	9	D
May 3 ..	Squabs and Squabbles ..	Vitagraph-Big V.	Comedy	2000	8¾	B
Sept. 16 ..	Sadie Love	Paramount-Art.	Comedy-Drama	5000	8¾	B
Sept. 19 ..	The Egg Crate Wallop ..	Aftcraft-Ince	Drama	—	9½	D
Nov. 15 ..	Delicious Little Devil .	Neville Bruce	Comedy-Drama	5000	10	D
Nov. 29 ..	The Gamblers	Vitagraph	Drama	—	8¾	B
Notknown	Anna, The Adventuress ..	Hepworth	Drama	6000	8¾	B
Notknown	The House of Fatal Love ..	Nordisk	Drama	5000	8¾	B
Notknown	South of Santa Fe .. .	Butcher-Texas Girvan	Drama	2000	8¾	B
Notknown	The Girl of Hell Agony ..	Butcher-Texas Girvan	Drama	2000	8½	B
Notknown	Movie Chats	Butcher-Urban	Interest	—	9½	D
Notknown	The Love Cheaters	Jury's-Cole Robertson	Comedy-Drama	4500	9	A B
Notknown	Summer Revels in Stockholm	Jury's	Interest	—	9	D
Notknown	Are Honeymoons Happy? ..	Jury's	Comedy	1000	8¾	B
Notknown	The Auction Mart	Phillips B.A.	Drama	6000	8¾	B
Notknown	Wolves of the Night ..	Fox	Drama	6000	8¾	B
Notknown	The Embarrassment of Riches	Artistic-L. Walker	Drama	5000	8¾	B
Notknown	His Parlour Zoo .. .	W'strn Imp'rt Billikin	Comedy	1000	8¾	B
Notknown	His Uncle Dudley	W'strn Imp'rt Triangle	Comedy	1000	8¾	B
Notknown	Deuce Duncan	W'strn Imp'rt	Drama	5000	8¾	B
Notknown	The Thirteenth Man .	L.I.F.T. Cines	Drama	5000	8¾	A B
Notknown	On the Borderland of Civilisation	Direct	—	10000	9½	D
OPEN MARKET.						
May 24 ..	Transatlantic Smash Up in China	P.C.C.	—	500	7	B
May 24 ..	No Funds	R.C.	—	1000	8½	B
May 24 ..	The Making of School Slates	—	Interest	—	7	D
May 27 ..	Poker, Police and Promises..	Star	Comedy	1020	8¾	B
May 27 ..	Wild Animal Trapping ..	—	Interest	900	8½	D
May 27 ..	Screen Magazine	—	Interest	700	7	D

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Back Gou Gou for the Lincoln, Billy, not more than a tanner though. Poluski and Mott 5/- limit!

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EMPIRE, KILBURN Day's Agency.

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THOSE FOUR KIDS
THE HAPPY GO LUCKY GIRLS.
In an Act full of "Pep."
This, PALACE, BURNLEY. Next, PALACE, HUDDERSFIELD
Thanks for all the wires for seats for the Posing act, but they were all booked up during the rehearsal. Have a few vacancies for programme sellers and Check takers

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THE IMPRESSIONIST.
EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND
All Coms., E. H. Granville.

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THE METROPOLITAN
Business Manager, HARRY BURNS.

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MAD HORSE.
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JACK WARMAN
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AMERICAN SEASON
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Mar. 1, Palace, Hammersmith
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THE MERRY SCOT.
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ERNEST ROMA
ON TOUR

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Back Barnsley for the English Cup NEXT year. BUICK!
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Monks! J. says she wouldn't fetch tuppence on a Rag Scale: I m upset.

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JEN LATONA

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NATHANO BROS.

H.M. The Shah of Persia laughed at us until tears came to his eyes at the H., Manchester
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Meet the wife. She's always clowning
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VACANT March 8, 15, August, 13, Sept. 6, 13. All Coms., GEO. BARCLAY.

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Coms., LEW LAKE.

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THE NEW SOPRANO.

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(Photo by HANA.)

HARRY THURSTON

"LUCKY OLD BILL"
Business Manager....GEO. BARCLAY

HAL WRIGHT

THE BURLESQUE COMEDIAN
This Week, COLLINS'S. Next, L.T.V. Agent, GEO. BARCLAY.

SYD. WALKER

"Where do Flies go in the Winter Time?"
Next Week, EMPIRE, WOOLWICH

WILL

VAN ALLEN

15 minutes' Talk and a Banjo.
HIPPO., LEWISHAM
20, Museum Chambers, W.C. 1. 'Phone—Museum 4659. LEW LAKE'S AGENCY.

G. H. ELLIOTT

THE ORIGINAL CHOCOLATE COLOURED COON.
This Week, LONDON COLISEUM Next, EMPIRE, GATESHEAD
P.A., "Sentosa," Oakington Avenue, Wembley Park, Middlesex. 'Phone—Wembley 67

WARDINI

PALACE, CHELSEA

THE ANARTOS

ARTHUR & LAWRENCE
"Oh! Lawrence"
"Tomorrow will be Friday"
By Fred Patterson
This Week, EMPRESS, BRIXTON. Next, WALTHAMSTOW
Agent, WALTER BENTLEY.

PETER META

DONALD and CARSON

"THE STABLE BOY." "Doing Very Well, Thank You."
ON TOUR
P.A., 76, THE LAWNS, SHEPHERD'S BUSH. Agent, GEO. BARCLAY.

HINSLE

THE NOVELTY COMEDY ILLUSIONIST Assisted by GERTIE REES.
This Week, THE METROPOLITAN
VACANT Feb. 16 & 23

KENNA BROS.,

THE FUNNY AIRMEN,
Back in England shortly. All Coms., c/o "The Era."

Howard FLYNN and Elsye HAYNSON

The Celebrated Composer-Pianist. The Little Lady with the Big Voice.
In Original Song Creations featuring Famous Melodies.
Now leaving for Three Months' Tour in South Africa
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RENEE & GODFREY

The Greatest Juvenile Dancers, and British, too!
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MAUDE ASTON

ON TOUR IN "SQUIBS."

OWING TO NUMEROUS NEW MUSICAL ACTS
THE DEMAND FOR THE

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IS BIGGER THAN EVER.
This Week, WALHAM GREEN (Sharing Top.)
Feb. 18, O. H. TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Return after 5 months.)
Booked by Mc. CLAFLIN.

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THE OPERATIC DANCER.
Coms.: 39, North End Road, Golders Green, N.W. 3.

VERNON WATSON

THE PREMIER MIMIC ON TOUR

DOC CAMPBELL

Originator of Comedy Cycling "Entanglements."
This Week, SALFORD. Next, S. LONDON
VACANT Feb. 23, March 1, 8, 15, 22
P.A., 25, Litchfield St., Charing Cross Rd., W.C. 2

JACK KELLINO

THE ORIGINAL COMEDY MUSICIAN.
This Week, PALACE, DARLISLE. Next, PALACE, HUDDERSFIELD
P.A.—30, Norfolk House Road, Streatham, S.W.

W. J. CHURCHILL

A COMEDIAN,
AS THE BARON. OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBRO'
VACANT APRIL 5.

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The Adonis of Vaudeville.
ENORMOUS SUCCESS EVERYWHERE.
ON TOUR. BOOKED TILL 1923. HARRY KENYON, Esq.

JIM NOLAN

THE PERSONIFICATION OF NATURAL FUN.
This Week, HIPPO., COVENTRY.
Next, HIPPO., ROTHERHITHE.

PAUL GORDON

A NEW KIND OF WIRE WALKER.
ALHAMBRA, PARIS.
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Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR FEBRUARY 16, 1920.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Stellios, Jesse Collins, Jean Andrews, Malcolm Scott, Margaret Cooper, Violet Vanbrugh, Muriel George and Ernest Butcher, Bioscope.

STOLL PICTURE THEATRE, KINGSWAY. (London Opera House.)
Pictures and Varieties.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Wyn and Ivy, Nolan and Holt, May Henderson, Fyne and Hurley 6 Musical Navvies, Edgar Curtis, Mark Coney, Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMP.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Melford and Dodd, Country Singers, Bioscope and Company as booked.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Lucy Clarke, Mangin and Kerbel, Frank H. Fox, Barton and Ashley, Delino, Anna Dorothy, Sinclair's Diamonds, Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Daly and Young, 3 Jees, Takio, Rinaldo, Benson Gray, Dorothy Belton, Daimler and Eadie, Bioscope.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Anderson and Nash, Ginnett's Rejected Remounts, De Alma, The McLeans, Bio.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—
Frank Butt, Van Dock, Deguchi Troupe, Mayne and Sheridan, Dainty Doris, Haydee's Miniature Theatre, Bioscope.

BEDMINSTER HIPPO.
Pictures and Varieties.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Yetta, Scott Gibson, Kuming and Windsor, Doris Ashton, Bioscope.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Roll and Butt, Kelly and Drake, The Jovers, Haley's Juveniles, Fred Russell, Billy French, Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPO.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
The Buchanans, Foreman and Fannan, Bioscope.
(Matinees Monday and Tuesday).

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FLORAL HALL, LEICESTER.

And in association with the above—
THE ALHAMBRA, LONDON, W.C.
"Medorah," featuring Ada Reeve.

NOTE.—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at the end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—
FULHAM HIPPODROME.

The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.

14 BAND PARTS REQUIRED for all Theatres except The London Coliseum which requires at least 20, including 4 first Violin Parts, 2 second Violin Parts, separate Cello and Bass Parts, full Wood, Wind and Brass, Conductor. (Harp and Organ if required).

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the orders, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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General Administrative Offices:
25, Charing Cross Road, W.C.
Telephone Nos., Gerrard 5654 and 2619.

Calls for Monday, Feb. 16, 1920.

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 11.30.
C. B. Cochran's Production "Afgar."

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.
C. B. Cochran's production, "The Eclipse."

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.15.
The I.V.T.A. present "The Lads of the Village." Hendricks. Bioscope.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12.
H. Burns presents "Nights of Gladness." Dene Dunlop. The Doves. Bioscope.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Kitchen Comedy Four. Niblo and Doris. The Martinis. Lowe and Lowman. Rosie Reys. Loupe and Ladies. The Violas. Olga Morselli. Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Laura Guerite. The Anartos. The Four Black Diamonds. Ferguson and Mack. Wilfred Burnand. Joy Wattle. Hayman and Lowe Wardini. Vera Caine. Bioscope.

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Caron Troupe. L. Ephraim's Co. "The Meanest Man on Earth." Fox and Rose. Rosie Reys. Billy Douglas. Massona. Edis and Forbes. Bioscope.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Daisy Jerome. Makido Family. Nicol and Martin. Rosa Loader. The Fourits. Spitari. W. G. Watts. Gwen Thomas. Violet Levy. Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Seymour Hicks presents Stanley Brett in "Cash on Delivery."

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Harry Burns presents "Making Movies." Winston Players. Charles Cardow. The Meymotts. Jean Alexander. Bioscope.

WATFORD PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Arthur Rosebery and Gerard F. Buckle's Co. in "For Sweethearts and Wives."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artists without prejudice.

Bill matter to be sent direct to each hall three weeks prior to date of opening.

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I KNOW WHERE THE FLIES GO

(ON A COLD AND FROSTY MORNING).

By Sam Mayo and John P. Harrington.

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At the HOLBORN EMPIRE, Nightly.

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Band Parts Ready, Price **1/6** *per set.*

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Supreme Song Successes of the Season:

WHERE DO FLIES GO IN THE WINTER TIME?
EVERYTHING IS PEACHES DOWN IN GEORGIA.
IF YOU COULD CARE.
I'M SORRY I MADE YOU CRY.
CAN YOU TAME WILD WIMMEN?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY LOVING SOMEBODY ELSE?
KIDNAP ME.
BY THE CAMP FIRE.
L'IL LIZA JANE.
I WANT A DOLL.
CHONG.
ORIENTAL ROSEBUD.

THE RAGE OF 1920.

INDIANOLA

THE GREATEST OF ALL INSTRUMENTAL HITS.
Played by all the Leading Orchestras and Bands throughout the Country.
The piece for which you will be encored again and again.

I'VE GOT MY CAPTAIN WORKING FOR ME NOW.
NOBODY KNOWS (And Nobody Seems to Care).
YOU'D BE SURPRISED.
HE WENT IN LIKE A LION.
THE ROSE OF NO MAN'S LAND.
I'M A VERY, VERY DISAPPOINTED MAN.
MY BABY'S ARMS.
GOLDEN GATE.
CAROLINA SUNSHINE.
I USED TO CALL HER BABY.
PATCHES.
MENDING A HEART.

Send 1/6 for Special Song Selection.

NEW SONGS.

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TILL THE SHADOWS HAVE FLOWN. OH, MOTHER, I'M WILD. MISSISSIPPI SHORE.

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English Representative of LEO FIEST, Inc., the famous AMERICAN House. Australian Representative: FRANK ALBERT, Sydney.

London: Printed for the Proprietors of "The Era," 38, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C., by Messrs. Love & Malcomson, Ltd., at Dane-street, High Holborn, W.C. 1. Wednesday, February 11, 1920.